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Reportage on 'Asia Society' Conference in Tokyo

Singapore's Goh Speaks

OW1305042893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Singapore's Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong called Thursday [13 May] for the United States and Japan to take a cautious approach in their dealings with China in the interests of the future development of Asia. "The management of this trilateral relationship will become a major factor of international relations, just as East-West relations were during the cold war," Goh told a private international conference on Asia's role in the changing world order.

In a speech on geopolitics in Asia, he added, however, "the world's only superpower, the United States, and the world's two emerging powers, Japan and China, have yet to clearly define their relationships."

Goh told the conference, sponsored by the U.S.-based Asia Society, "relations between China and Japan are the key relationship in the Asia-Pacific [region] after U.S.-Japan relations." The two nations have begun evaluating their relations and have become closer, he said, but they are still not "intimate."

"Japan can help by openly closing the old chapter," he said, referring to the issue of an apology compensation by Japan for its wartime actions. He also called for Japan to make active investments, train skilled and management personnel, and transfer technology.

Meanwhile, "China must assure Japan that it will reciprocate Japan's help and that it will never allow its new economic strength to become a potential security threat to Japan," Goh said.

He said the U.S. can steer the trilateral relationship to "ensure that the region will remain stable with optimal conditions for growth." But he urged flexibility in U.S. policy and said it is still unclear what concrete measures will be taken by the administration of President Bill Clinton.

Though expressing understanding of the U.S. desire to promote its own systems and values in China and around the world, he said the Chinese "never had any wish to be considered good Westerners."

"As the Chinese economy develops with better communications, education and openness, I believe conditions (human rights and market access) will improve, as they already have." "We should encourage this with patience, sophistication and realism," he said.

The U.S. wants Japan to play a "bigger role but in a way prescribed by America," Goh said. "But Tokyo is no longer willing to simply bankroll U.S. leadership without due consideration of its distinct national interests and enhanced global status."

Asian nations also want Japan to take a global role but would "prefer that Tokyo eschew the status of a military power." A situation which required Japan to fight off threats outside its territory would alarm its neighbors, Goh said.

"Asia needs a stable environment and friendly relations among the countries in the Asia-Pacific. Asian countries also want an international framework that encourages growth and permits investments and trade to flow freely," he said.

Stressing the need for discussion of security, Goh said the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will meet senior officials of its dialogue countries in Singapore to discuss regional security issues later this month. He also said that "flexible arrangements to bring in China and Russia" are being explored.

On the whole, he said, he is "optimistic about Asia's future" and stressed that Asia's success creates opportunities for the U.S. and the rest of the world.

ROK's Yi Urges GATT Settlement

OW1305084093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0434 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Yi Kyong-sik urged East Asian leaders on Thursday [13 May] to defend the progress of global free trade and expressed concerns about regional trade blocs.

East Asian nations will make utmost efforts to "counter any threat to their export-oriented prosperity," Yi said at a private international conference on Asia's role in the changing world order.

The conference was sponsored by the U.S.-based Asia Society.

In his keynote speech entitled Trade Policy Challenges to East Asia, Yi stressed the need for an early conclusion of the stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, citing the importance of multilateral trade rules.

He said that failure of the round of talks being organized under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade "would lead to a new outbreak of protectionism and trade disputes."

This will restrict the growth of global trade as already seen in the emergence of "two Western Hemisphere trading blocs" or the European Community and North American free trade agreement.

But in an apparent reference to recent moves by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to form its own trade bloc, he noted that Eastern Asia should not commit itself in creating an "artificial regional integration with discriminatory arrangements" to cope with the Western actions.

East Asian economies should instead push for "open regionalism with market mechanism" leading to a multinational trade system, he said.

Furthermore, Yi said East Asian nations should understand that trade policy reforms become effective only when there are domestic reforms aimed at enhancement of the market mechanism.

Specifically, he said, eastern Asia should facilitate inter-regional exports beyond unilateral and other initiatives.

Noting that the South Korean Government recently endorsed such policies, Yi called for other East Asian economies to follow with "open regionalistic objectives."

Mahathir, Bolger on GATT Deadlock

*BK1305074593 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0540 GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and New Zealand expressed shared concern over the continuing lack of success in reaching a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade liberalisation talks.

At the same time, they also hoped the long drawn-out negotiations could be successfully concluded and they saw as very important the commitment of the Clinton administration to work for such a successful result.

Malaysian Ambassador to Japan Mohamed Khatib Abdul Hamid, who briefed newsmen on the meeting between Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed and his New Zealand counterpart James B. Bolger, said the two leaders also discussed the situation in Cambodia, the position of Asia and the Pacific in the global economy and bilateral issues.

The two leaders had a commonality of views on Cambodia and felt there was a need for the United Nations to maintain peace in that country.

They also agreed that the Asia-Pacific region would be dominant in the global economy into the 21st century and that there was a need to maintain a free trade regime by reaching a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

Dr. Mahathir, reiterating that Malaysia is always a free trader, said it was very important for Malaysia to export and consequently the country wanted to see the Uruguay Round successfully concluded.

He added that in any negotiations there were bound to be some who might lose as not every party could win. However, for the common good, there must be a regime of free trade.

Bolger, who invited Malaysians to invest in New Zealand, said the country had launched its Asia 2000 project, a series of seminars and conferences aimed at

focusing the minds of New Zealanders on Asia, to get acquainted with opportunities in Asia, and to be associated with Asia.

He also said Malaysian students would continue to be welcomed by New Zealand and he agreed with Dr. Mahathir that it was important that there should be a free exchange of students between the two countries.

Dr. Mahathir told Bolger that Malaysia was building on its twinning facilities with foreign universities to speed up the flow of students, while minimising costs.

Khatib said the two leaders expressed a wish to see more bilateral business activities and cultural and student exchanges. Bolger also said there was a standing invitation for Dr. Mahathir to visit New Zealand.

Bolger Urges GATT Agreement

*OW1305094393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0851 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—The Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations should be brought to a successful conclusion to keep an open global trading system, New Zealand Prime Minister James Bolger said here Thursday [13 May].

"I speak of the hopefully imminent completion of the Uruguay Round of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) negotiations," said Bolger, noting that the multilateral trading system has served the economic interests of the Asia-Pacific region.

Bolger, making his remarks at the New York-based Asian Society's three-day annual conference, said the successful conclusion of the stalled Uruguay Round talks is important to maintain the impetus of an open international trading system, which he said now stands at a crossroad.

"The level of gain (the trading system) will deliver is of totally different order to the costs it will impose on a few vested interests," he said.

Bolger urged the United States, European countries and Japan to exercise political leadership to successfully end the Uruguay Round talks.

Global trade negotiations were kicked off in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in September 1986 under the sponsorship of GATT.

Bolger said the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, an Australian-proposed, 15-nation regional forum, would be the candidate if a structure was needed to promote the region's trade liberalization.

"In the 21st, the countries bordering the western Pacific will set the economic pace for the world," Bolger said. "China is only the most obvious example of a country that will become absolutely central to world affairs."

To keep abreast with changing international structures, Bolger said the first step "will be to provide Japan with a permanent position on the U.N. Security Council."

Responding to a delegate's question, Bolger said Japan's permanent membership should be carefully considered during review of the organizations's current mechanisms.

He also said that interests of the leading world powers—the United States, Russia, China and Japan—conflict in the Asia-Pacific region and noted the need for more frequent and widespread dialogue in the region. Such discussions should cover security, among other issues, he said.

"I do not advocate building institutions as a first step—that will come in due time," Bolger said. "But we need to develop the habit of dialogue and consultation."

Mahathir Seeks Support for EAEC

*OW1305094493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0827 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed on Thursday [13 May] again sought support for his East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) proposal, while stressing the need for an open, multilateral global trading system.

"From the very beginning, the proposal was misunderstood as an attempt to create an inward-looking trading bloc," Mahathir told a private international conference called "Asia's Role in the Changing World Order."

The United States, which would be excluded from the EAEC, has strongly opposed the proposal, and Japan is reluctant to commit itself due to the U.S. objection.

In a keynote speech at the conference sponsored by the U.S.-based Asia Society, Mahathir said, "We are not advocating a preferential trading arrangement, or a free trade area, or a customs union, or a common market or economic union for East Asia."

"What we wish to see is the establishment of a loose consultative forum for the economies of the region," he said, noting there would be agendas for in and outside the region.

For extra-regional agenda, he said, "We should discuss how we can act in concert to enhance the chances for the success of the Uruguay Round (of world trade talks), the perpetual of the open global trading system, and other global public good."

Asked after his speech about the prospects for U.S. support of his proposed new parameters for the EAEC, Mahathir said President Bill Clinton, unlike former President George Bush, says "good things when he open his mouth at least for now."

In his speech, Mahathir noted that the EAEC proposal, which he initially dubbed the East Asia Economic

Group, is entirely in the hands of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

But he went on to recommend the parameters, primarily calling for global trade liberalization, open regionalism, outward-oriented policy, free access of foreign investment, and the inflow of technology, know-how, entrepreneurship and modern management.

"At the same time that we pursue these ends, we should ensure that we are not confrontationist, that we are not bullied and intimidated, that we do not damage" other regional economic forums."

Also, "that we do not allow others to divide the Pacific, ASEAN or East Asia, and that we are not cowed from speaking out against racism, exclusivism and attempts to create closed trading blocs."

He criticized what he said were growing moves toward protectionism and managed trade, especially in North America and Europe.

Urging a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round, sponsored by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), he said the round remains in "gridlock, held by a few farmers and the political interests of their candidates."

Apparently also attacking Japan's low-key commitment, he said, "the other members of GATT, some of whose very lives depend on the result, are essentially spectators, very often not quite able to really comprehend the game, still less to influence its outcome."

Mahathir said import targeting will increasingly be used by the strong against the weak, and objected to recent such U.S. demands on Japan.

Replying to questions about the yen's rise after his speech, he said the Group of Seven major industrialized nations should not only consider the impact in their own countries.

"The yen's appreciation leads to raising prices of Japanese products imported by Malaysia and other countries," he said.

Asked about Japan's trade surplus and recent listing of what it sees as unfair trade practices in Malaysia, Mahathir said his country is also preparing such a list, and Japan will obviously be included.

Thai Official Speaks

*OW1305084493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0511 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan said here Thursday [13 May] that Japan is the most logical choice to take the lead in forming a new Asia-Pacific community.

"Few countries are as well-positioned to contribute to the establishment of a new Asia-Pacific community as

Japan," Amnuai said touching on Tokyo's quest for a political clout commensurate with its economic might.

The Thai deputy premier, speaking at the Asia Society's annual conference, said Japan's economic power "has been a powerful catalyst" for the growth of the Asia-Pacific region.

He also said Japan's moves to shoulder a heavier burden for security in the region signifies its aspirations to help forge a new framework for relations in the post-cold war era.

"The expressed commitment of Japan to harness this nascent political power through the United Nations or within the framework of regional security cooperation is a positive step in the direction of stability," he said.

Amnuai said China, in contrast to Japan, is attempting to strengthen its economic influence to match its political power.

The handling of Hong Kong's future, and the long-range status of Taiwan and its domestic political situation will be "important indicators" of Beijing's developing role in the Asia-Pacific region, he said.

Amnuai also said the United States has played a key role in steering countries in the Asia-Pacific region to achieve economic growth and development.

"The U.S. security umbrella helped ensure internal stability for countries within the region and shield their free-market economies from external political threat and allowed them to grow," he said. "This growth was nurtured by their access to the large U.S. consumer market."

He also called for Washington's continued role in maintaining political and economic stability in the Asia-Pacific region through cooperation at all levels.

Amnuai voiced concern about the unabated Japan-U.S. trade dispute "as it could set the tone for the trade relations between the U.S. and other Asia-Pacific nations."

If the stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks fail or face considerable delays, he said, the Asia-Pacific community might move to use the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum as an alternative way of seeking a cooperative trade framework.

The Thai deputy prime minister called for the U.S. to improve relations with China and resolve trade frictions with Japan as a way of resolving its domestic woes and contributing to a new regional and world order.

He also urged U.S. receptiveness to the diverse cultural traditions in the Asia-Pacific region, especially of member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) which groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Reportage on NAM Committee Talks Held in Bali

Iran's Velayati Urges UN Reforms

LD1205180993 Tehran IRNA in English 1516 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA—[Iranian] Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today called for further strengthening of the United Nations system in order to cope with the global economic problems.

He made the statement at the second meeting of the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), being held in Bali, Indonesia.

Addressing a meeting convened to explore the role of the U.N. in international economic cooperation for development, he stated that it was impossible to find out solutions to the global economic problems unless a common understanding on issues such as development, environment, finance, trade and transfer of technology could be reached.

He called the UN system as "an appropriate setting" to stabilize the world economy through coordination of macro as well as micro economic policies, thus improving the international systems of money, finance and trade so as to support the development process.

Pointing to the short-term, self-serving policies pursued by some developed countries, he termed them as the major obstacles to this end.

"The General Assembly," Velayati said, "as the supreme decision making body, must be adjusted and if necessary, reformed in order to respond to new and emerging challenges. The reform should by no means be at the expense of the abilities of the system to deal with the needs of the developing countries".

He stressed that the reform should rather aim at increasing the responsiveness of the system to the alarming international economic conditions and problems of the South.

Velayati underlined the need for the NAM to take the initiative in setting the priorities in order to streamline the agenda and allow for a more meaningful and action-oriented approach in dealing with issues of primary importance, particularly to developing countries.

Pointing to the potential for cooperation between Group of 77 and NAM through the Joint Committee for Coordination, he stated that the cooperation should focus on enforcing various legislations on development.

"Finally," he said, "given the contribution of the operational activities of the U.N. to the development of the South, the exercise of restructuring of ECOSOC [United Nations Economic and Social Council], should by no means lead to a change in the balance of representation in the governing bodies of UNDP [United Nations

Development Program], UNFPA [United Nations Population Fund], UNICEF and WFP [World Food Program]."

Alatas on NAM Economic Meeting

*BK1305051893 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0315 GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Denpasar, May 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Developing countries have agreed in principle to hold a summit on social and economic development as well as international cooperation, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said Wednesday [12 May].

The agreement was reached at the meeting of NAM's Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Cooperation (SMC) in Nusa Dua, near here, he told a press conference at the end of the second day of the meeting.

The SMC, being attended by 67 countries including observers from developed nations, decided to give the mandate to the Non-Aligned Movement's (NAM) chairman, [Indonesian] President Suharto, to hold further discussions on the matter, including working out the date for the summit, said Alatas who is the SMC chairman.

The meeting also agreed that President Suharto should conduct further talks on the proposed establishment of the eminent persons group aimed at coming up with views on economic and development issues. The proposal was adopted at the NAM summit in Jakarta last September in efforts to consolidate the movement's activities in the fields of economy and development.

Alatas said the committee had had wide and useful discussions on South-South cooperation.

We have made several concrete proposals, the details of which will be in the communique to be issued Thursday, he said.

Foreign Ministry Deputy Secretary-General (II) Datuk Renji Sathiah said the SMC meeting had come out with several solid proposals to consolidate and enhance South-South cooperation in specific fields.

These include cooperation in science and technology where Indonesia has offered to host the meeting of expert group on population and food security.

Alatas Meets With Delegates

*BK1305093593 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] The meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Standing Ministerial Committee on Economic Cooperation will resume its session this evening to finalize the draft documents. This afternoon, several foreign ministers and chief delegates held bilateral discussions. [Indonesian] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas held talks with the Guinea-Bissau secretary of state for foreign affairs and Colombia's permanent representative to the United

Nations. Here is a report by Budi Harjo, correspondent of Radio Republik Indonesia [RRI] Denpasar, on Minister Ali Alatas' activities:

[Begin Budi Harjo recording in progress] Following the talks, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas told RRI that Marcelino Lima, Guinea-Bissau secretary of state for foreign affairs, wanted to have more concrete cooperation with Indonesia, particularly in the economic and technological fields, without turning the East Timor issue into an obstacle. According to Ali Alatas, Guinea-Bissau has shown great understanding of the East Timor issue and is prepared to help settle the problem, although the African nation was formerly a Portuguese colony. The two countries pledged to exchange ambassadors and to identify areas for more concrete bilateral cooperation.

Similarly, Burkina Faso Foreign Minister Thomas Sanou called for economic and technological cooperation, as did Luis Fernando Jaramillo Correa, Colombia's permanent representative to the United Nations. According to Ali Alatas, Colombia, which is the chairman of the Group of 77, is consistently active in NAM activities because all NAM members belong to the group. Consequently, the NAM has played a prominent role in the activities of the Group of 77. Meanwhile, (Larry McCoy), permanent representative of the Republic of Indonesia [as heard] to the United Nations in New York, said that international cooperation through North-South dialogue based on mutual interest and responsibility is a step forward. Thus, the Bali meeting of the Standing Ministerial Committee on Economic Cooperation is a more concrete step toward enhancing South-South dialogue and North-South dialogue based on the principles of interdependence. (Larry McCoy), who is attending the meeting as an observer, said the meeting was proceeding smoothly without meeting any obstacles. [end recording]

Indian, Pakistani Officials Confer

*BK1305080493 Delhi All India Radio Network in
English 0730 GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] India has again requested Pakistan to hand over Memon brothers wanted in connection with the Bombay blasts. During his meeting in Bali, Indonesia, the union minister of state for external affairs, Mr. R.L. Bhatia, told Mr. Nusrat Ali Shah, adviser to the Pakistan prime minister, that confidence-building measures are necessary for dialogue on improving relations. Mr. Bhatia pointed out that India and Pakistan have had several meetings at various levels but there has been no change at the ground level. He said Pakistan continues aiding and abetting of terrorists in Kashmir and Punjab.

Commentary Urges NAM, G-7 Dialogue

*BK1205131993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia
Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 11 May 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Some 37 member countries of the Nonaligned Movement have expressed a willingness to send their representatives to Bali to participate in the meeting of the NAM Standing Ministerial Committee on Economic Cooperation to be opened by [Indonesian] President Suharto today. This meeting is a follow up to the 10th Jakarta NAM summit conference held in September last year under the slogan "To Manifest Concrete South-South Economic Cooperation."

In accordance with the declaration adopted at the Jakarta summit, NAM has to play an active role to enhance North-South cooperation as long as it is relevant to the concept of further promoting South-South cooperation, and strengthening the role of the United Nations in promoting international economic cooperation for development.

Indonesia, being the NAM chairman for the next three years, will be the focus of attention for the 108 member countries for the creation of a brighter future. Strengthening South-South cooperation is the basic capital for enhancing North-South cooperation for an equal partnership and mutual respect. Most probably the form of cooperation will not be that spectacular. This is because, basically, individual NAM member countries are still faced with challenges and internal problems. However, once the potential for cooperation is put together and programmed with direct objectives following proper planning, surely it will eventually become a truly effective force that lends support to economic growth in the countries of the South that are mostly categorized as developing countries.

There is an urgent need for strong South-South cooperation because the existence of other influences will make it more difficult to receive aid from countries of the North that are now giving their prior attention to the new states in East Europe after the collapse of the Soviet Union. We will also be seeing the presence of regional organizations such as the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA, and the European single market, which obviously are protecting their own interests first. In other words, the North group has taken a global step to impose more protectionism, while the South group is left to remain in disarray.

It is hoped that the meeting in Bali will be able to review problems facing NAM member countries and let the United Nations, other international agencies under its patronage, and the developed nations that will meet in Tokyo, Japan, next month understand the problems.

President Suharto, who is NAM chairman, has conveyed his intention to come to Tokyo to hold a collective dialogue with leaders of the G-7 [Group of Seven] industrialized nations. It looks like there is some hope for the countries of the South to channel their aspirations to the countries of the North now that U.S. President Bill Clinton has expressed his wish to meet President

Suharto. Thus, a direct dialogue between President Suharto and G-7 leaders could become a reality.

Talks on Tumen River Development Program Conclude

SK1105003193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1524 GMT 10 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 10 (KCNA)—The third meeting of the program management committee [PMC] of the Tumen River area development program which opened here on May 9 closed today.

The meeting was held as a reflection of the requirement of the reality in which regional economic development is now a trend in international economic relations, and of the desire of the countries in Northeast Asia to develop the Tumen River area to be a centre of cooperation and exchange among them.

Views were exchanged openheartedly on all matters raised and a consensus was reached.

The meeting was attended by delegations of the UNDP [United Nations Development Program], China, the DPRK, Russia, Mongolia and South Korea.

Delegations of Finland and the Euro-Asian business Consultancy Ltd. and a Japanese delegate attended it as observers.

A draft "Agreement on the Development of the Tumen River Area" was discussed at the meeting.

According to the underlying principles of the agreement, riparian states of the Tuman River area development program, i.e., the DPRK, the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation agreed to abide by the principles of international law governing relations between states, particularly the principles of sovereignty, equality and independence and the principles of mutual friendship and respect for mutual relations act.

According to it, the three riparian states agreed to establish a Tumen River area development coordinating committee as the very parties that lease land, facilities and installations to the Tumen River Corporation.

The committee shall comprise government delegates of the three riparian states.

The meeting also discussed a draft "agreement on organizational and financial framework".

According to the document, the member states of the Tumen River area development program agreed to set up a Tumen River Area Development Bank (TRAD-CO).

It was decided that the two documents over which agreement was reached at the meeting would be signed at high-level talks of the member states due to be held in-Moscow in September 1993 when they have been endorsed by their governments in the days ahead.

The meeting discussed the 1993 work plan of the PMC of the Tumen River area development program and matters related to the fourth PMC meeting.

Japan

Hiraiwa Concerned Over U.S. 'Managed Trade'

OW1005111493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1051 GMT
10 May 93

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—Japan's top business baron, Gaishi Hiraiwa, on Monday reaffirmed his concern about an apparent U.S. tilt toward managed trade to slim the bilateral trade gap.

Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), told a news conference that "it would nurture a kind of protectionism or managed trade if Japan and the United States discuss trade matters with certain conditions attached. Bilateral trade talks are inconsistent with the spirit of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which advocates free trade," he said.

He also sniped at the "result-oriented" new U.S. trade policy, favoring numerical targets which Japan is expected to achieve in certain trade sectors to help cut the overall bilateral trade gap. "We should not hastily seek results only; what is needed here is a more macro-economic perspective and not a managed trade approach," he said.

Hiraiwa, who is also chairman of Tokyo Electric Power Co., also indicated that Japan's contributions to United Nations peacekeeping operations should not be hampered by the recent killing of a Japanese member of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

"(Japan) should steadily fulfill its mission to help resolve regional disputes while doing its utmost on safety. The death (of the officer) will not be futile if the big cause is attained," he said.

Mieno: Strong Yen Benefits Tokyo; Timing Bad

OW1205085493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0757 GMT
12 May 93

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Wednesday the yen's gain against the U.S. dollar will benefit Japan in the long term but the timing is bad while the domestic economy is in a recovery phase. Speaking at a press conference, Mieno said the central bank will keep a close eye on the strong yen's impact on the economy.

Mieno predicted the economy will pick up in the second half of the current fiscal year, encouraged by a recovery in private-sector demand as a result of the government's largest-ever pump-priming measures.

Mieno said business conditions in Japan are in a "delicate" stage as consumer spending and corporate plant and equipment investment remain weak, while some brighter signs are appearing at the same time.

"In the long run, a higher yen is good for the Japanese economy, but the timing is not good," he said.

The dollar was trading in the mid-120 yen level in early February but has dropped rapidly since, closing Wednesday in Tokyo at 111.78 yen.

Appearing before the press in Tokyo for the first time since returning from a series of international financial [words indistinct] from April 29 to May 1, Mieno said the result of the meetings were "satisfactory for Japan."

The Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialized nations agreed currency exchange rates ought to reflect economic fundamentals and will work together to attain stability in case of fluctuation. But Mieno said so far as the foreign exchange issue is concerned, the G-7 agreement was "nothing more or nothing less than what is stated in the communique."

The governor said prospects for Japan's economy to begin recuperating in the latter half of the current fiscal year has not changed as "prerequisites for a turnaround are being organized in the private sector" and "stock adjustments" are showing developments.

On the official target of a 3.3 percent gross national product growth for fiscal 1993, Mieno said it is more important Japan reaches a sustainable level of growth free of inflationary pressures as soon as possible rather than a certain amount of growth in a certain period of time.

He welcomed the recent Tokyo stock market performance and said he hopes the rally will be long-lasting, while attributing higher long-term interest rates to a "modification process" by the market as expectations of a lower official discount rate recede.

Mieno was optimistic that liquidation procedures taken by financial institutions to write off their bad loans should not lead to limiting the access to funds by private enterprises as they crawl out of the current economic slowdown.

Referring again to the G-7 meeting of top finance officials in late April in Washington, the central banker said the external trade imbalance was not a major topic during the conference and no specific request was made of Japan. But outside the talks he felt some strong pressure against Japan over its mounting trade surplus and hence the need to further spur domestic demand and facilitate liberalization of its market for imports.

On the U.S. economy, Mieno said the recovery taking place seems to have some firm footholds as corporate capital spending is beginning to improve.

The trend for recovery has not changed in the U.S. despite poor economic growth in the first quarter, Mieno said, since it was due to temporary factors. He said he gained this impression during meetings with U.S. officials in Washington.

U.S. Urged To Consolidate Okinawa Bases*OW1305123593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1221 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Foreign Minister Kabun Muto on Thursday urged the United States to reduce the amount of land utilized by the U.S. military in Okinawa and to hold down levels of military aircraft noise at other bases, Foreign Ministry officials said. The officials said the request was made during talks with U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense William Perry, who is in Japan to attend a three-day international conference sponsored by the Asia Society.

Muto said Japan wants to continue upgrading its financial support for maintaining the U.S. military presence in Japan, which it considers important for regional security. But he asked that the U.S. military try to consolidate the functions of the American bases on Okinawa, which now spread throughout the island.

Muto noted that the Japanese Government has received complaints about aircraft noise from people living around the bases. The officials said Perry promised that Muto's requests will be given full consideration by the Pentagon.

Earlier in the day, Perry said in a speech that Tokyo should exert leadership in global affairs and called for a "more mature" U.S.-Japanese relationship.

Perry arrived in Japan on Wednesday [12 May] from Seoul, where he spoke with South Korean officials about North Korea's nuclear program. He also inspected U.S. troops stationed there.

Reportage on Cambodian Situation Continues**Murata: Cambodian Peace 'Intact'***OW1105121893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1147 GMT
11 May 93*

[Text] Bangkok, May 11 KYODO—Japanese Home Affairs Minister Keijiro Murata said Tuesday that a cease-fire agreement in Cambodia is still intact and the war-torn country is moving toward the planned general elections. Murata made the remarks to reporters in Bangkok, where he stopped over before returning home from his Cambodia visit.

"I had the real feeling that the cease-fire agreement has been observed (by the four rival factions). If not, confrontations could have spread over a broader area. Cambodia is moving steadily toward the elections," he said.

The country's first democratic election in decades is set for May 23 to 28 under the sponsorship of the United Nations.

Murata, also chairman of the National Public Safety Commission which supervises more than 200,000 police officers, flew to Cambodia Sunday to ask the U.N.

Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to ensure the safety of Japanese peacekeepers in the wake of the killing of a Japanese civilian policeman on May 4.

The four factions signed a peace accord in Paris in October 1991, pledging to disarm and hold the election for a Cambodian parliament, and put an end to a bloody 13-year conflict.

However, the Khmer Rouge, also known as the Pol Pot faction, has refused to disarm and take part in the election, claiming it is rigged in favor of the Phnom Penh government. It has mounted attacks on UNTAC personnel as well as on Phnom Penh forces in recent months.

Murata Expresses 'Concern'*OW1205080393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0733 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Home Affairs Minister Keijiro Murata expressed concern Wednesday that Japan might be isolated in the international community if it seeks special United Nations safety measures in regards to its peacekeepers' deployment in Cambodia. "If Japan should lose the support of international public opinion, Japan could be isolated...Japan should not seek special treatment for itself," Murata said.

The minister made the remarks at a news conference after flying back from his three-day visit to Cambodia, where two Japanese have been killed during U.N. efforts to bring peace to the nation.

On Monday [10 May], Murata discussed how to ensure safety for Japanese peacekeepers deployed in the war-ravaged country with Yasushi Akashi, chief of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

During the talks, Akashi reportedly rejected Murata's request to redeploy Japanese civilian police officers to safer areas from the Khmer Rouge guerrillas' strongholds. "I felt there is a large gap between Japanese public opinion and international public opinion," Murata said.

Atsuhito Nakata, a U.N. volunteer, was shot dead last month by unidentified gunman and Haruyuki Takata, a Japanese civilian policeman was killed, in an ambush by suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas early this month.

Murata categorically denied press reports that Hiroto Yamazaki, head of the Japanese civilian police corps, asked him if Japanese police could be pulled out of the nation marred by political violence.

Yamazaki was quoted in a May 9 meeting with the minister in Phnom Penh as asking, "How many of us will have to die before you decide to pull the Japanese police out of Cambodia?"

The minister said Japan will not order its peacekeepers to pull out of Cambodia without obtaining permission from UNTAC.

Muto Urges No Trade With KR

*OW1205134093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1033 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Foreign Minister Kabun Muto on Wednesday urged Thailand to further crack down on cross-border trade benefiting the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction in Cambodia, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The officials said Muto also urged in talks with Thai Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan that Bangkok exert its influence over the Khmer Rouge to stop destabilizing the political situation in Cambodia ahead of elections set to begin May 23.

Amnuai Wirawan arrived in Japan earlier in the day to attend an Asia Society-sponsored international conference.

Muto was quoted as noting that smuggling of timber and gems between Khmer Rouge-controlled border areas and Thailand was filling the coffers of the Pol Pot faction. He asked Thailand exert greater preventive efforts, officials said.

Amnuai said Thailand was already making such efforts in line with a relevant United Nations Security Council resolution.

Thai logging and gem-mining companies have multimillion dollar contracts with the Khmer Rouge, which has refused to disarm in accordance with a 1991 peace agreement and is opposing the U.N.-supervised elections. While the Cambodian factions have agreed on a ban on timber exports, Cambodian timber is reportedly still reaching Thailand from both government and guerrilla zones.

Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said in Phnom Penh Friday that he and Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh government, had discussed the possibility of opening new trade areas, while Hun Sen had proposed cooperation in stemming cross-border smuggling.

The officials said Muto urged that Thailand use whatever leverage it has over the Khmer Rouge to see that the elections are implemented smoothly and peacefully.

Amnuai responded merely that he personally considers it very regrettable that the Pol Pot faction has not cooperated with United Nations efforts to bring peace to Cambodia.

Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai told foreign correspondents in Bangkok last Monday [10 May] that during his seven months in office he has been unable to persuade the Khmer Rouge to do anything because Thailand has no special influence over the faction.

Thailand offered support and sanctuary to the faction and other Cambodian resistance forces after Vietnam's December 1978 invasion which ousted the Khmer Rouge.

Many observers say the Thai military retains strong ties, including business interests, with the guerrillas.

Tokyo To Charter Helicopters

*OW1205134293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Japan will charter military helicopters from two neighboring countries of Cambodia for such purposes as patrolling areas where Japanese civilian policemen are stationed and transporting necessities in the country, a government source said Wednesday. The helicopters will be funded from a pledge made by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to offer an additional 1 million dollars for U.N. peacekeeping operations in Cambodia, the source said.

Miyazawa made the pledge at a news conference Wednesday in response to the slaying of two Japanese in Cambodia. He said Japan would provide the funds to meet transportation needs aimed at improving the safety of U.N. personnel working in the war-torn country.

The source said the financial assistance may also be used for peacekeepers from other countries.

Japan plans to charter the helicopters from Bangladesh and another neighboring country of Cambodia, the source said.

Miyazawa Pledges No 'Retreat'

*OW1305122093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1149 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa pledged Thursday that Japan will not "retreat" from its peacekeeping commitment in Cambodia, Foreign Ministry officials said. Miyazawa made the vow during talks with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed who had urged Japan not to recall its peacekeepers after two Japanese were killed there.

The prime ministers met for about 45 minutes. Mahathir is in Tokyo for an Asia Society-sponsored international conference, where in a keynote speech earlier he plugged his idea for an East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC).

The United States, which would be excluded from the EAEC, has strongly opposed the proposal, while Japan is reluctant to commit itself because of the U.S. objection.

Officials said the topic was not raised in the talks with Miyazawa.

They said Mahathir expressed condolences over the killings in Cambodia of a Japanese volunteer in early April and a police officer a month later. But he said that Japan, by virtue of its being a "major regional power," should not respond by recalling its personnel from Cambodia and simply assuming the role of a financier of U.N. efforts there.

Officials said Miyazawa replied that Japan was not considering any such "retreat." Miyazawa repeated what he told the Diet earlier in the day, that it is "indispensable" for Japanese personnel to remain part of the 22,000-strong U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) endeavor, they said.

Officials said Mahathir predicted that the Khmer Rouge guerrilla group, which signed the 1991 Paris peace agreement but then refused to disarm, will create "disturbances" in an attempt to derail the May 23-28 elections. He was quoted as saying that most Khmer Rouge soldiers are young and "trained to kill."

The two leaders, meeting for the fourth time, are said to have agreed that Prince Norodom Sihanouk, now in Beijing, is the only Cambodian figure capable of uniting the country.

Mahathir was quoted as saying that Japan, as a current member of the U.N. Security Council, should make every effort to see that the besieged Muslim population in Bosnia-Herzegovina does not continue to suffer from warfare and "ethnic cleansing."

Officials said Miyazawa responded that Japan, which holds one of the 15-member Council's 10 nonpermanent seats for a two-year term, will do what it can to help resolve the conflict.

Mahathir warned that a lack of effective measures by the Security Council would seriously affect the credibility of the world body. The Malaysian leader has recently criticized Western countries on the issue, saying their concern over the safety of their troops outweighs their desire to help.

Miyazawa Urges General Election

*OW1305085993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0840 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Thursday the general election in Cambodia later this month is the only way to establish a permanent peace in the war-torn country. Miyazawa told a House of Representatives plenary session the election will bring reconciliation among Cambodian people.

He was replying to questions from Tamisuke Watanuki, former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, about the killing of a Japanese volunteer and a police officer in Cambodia, respectively in early April and early May.

The prime minister said, it is "indispensable" for Japan to have its peacekeepers stay with the 22,000-member United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to help ensure the election are held May 23-28 as scheduled.

"Some 4.7 million people have registered their names for the election. It means the majority of the Cambodian people want it. Postponing the election would bring nothing meaningful."

He said a postponement would kill the spirit of the October 1991 Paris peace accord that laid the grounds for a cease-fire among the four factions and the introduction of UNTAC to Cambodia as first steps to reconstruct the country.

Miyazawa also criticized the Khmer Rouge faction for ignoring repeated international requests to join the election. The Khmer Rouge, which governed Cambodia in the late 1970s, has refused to participate in the election, saying Vietnamese forces remain in the country.

Vietnam has reiterated that none of its military, which drove the Khmer Rouge from power in 1979, remain in the country.

In questions to Miyazawa, Shizuo Wada, a senior member of the largest opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP), accused the government of deceiving the Japanese people by telling them Japan would not participate in UN peacekeeping operations in countries where military attacks are imminent. "Cambodia has gone back to being a battlefield. Nobody believes a cease-fire agreement is still intact," Wada said.

Miyazawa replied that the basic framework of the Paris peace accord has not been infringed since the Khmer Rouge has only demanded it be more strictly implemented. Miyazawa said the faction also accepts the UNTAC presence.

At the start of the plenary session, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, the deputy head of Japan's peace-keeping headquarters, read a government report on the Cambodian situation.

Kono said the cease-fire among the four factions is still effective despite sporadic fighting. He said there is no all-out war being fought in the country.

He said the government believes the situation does not violate Japan's preconditions for deploying peacekeepers.

Among the conditions Japan sets are agreement on a cease-fire among the parties concerned and their acceptance of UN peacekeeping operations.

In a session of the House of Councillors' Committee on Foreign Affairs, Parliamentary Vice Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa said the Khmer Rouge is not under China's control. Kakizawa quoted Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen as saying in Bangkok that China has no power to exert pressure on the Pol Pot faction.

Kakizawa said Qian made the remark in a meeting they had late last month when Kakizawa attended a session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Peacekeeper Deployment To Continue

*OW1305060393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0537 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Japan renewed its determination Thursday to continue deploying its peacekeepers in Cambodia despite the killing of a Japanese police officer and a civilian volunteer there.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, the deputy head of Japan's peacekeeping headquarters, made the declaration in a speech at a House of Representatives plenary session, convened in the wake of the killing of the two Japanese. The Japanese volunteer election monitor and the civilian police officer were killed in early April and May, respectively, while serving with the 22,000-member U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC]. Four other Japanese police officers have been injured.

Kono said a cease-fire among the four rival Cambodian factions is still effective despite sporadic fighting there. He said there is no all-out war being waged in the country. Japan still regards the Khmer Rouge as abiding by the October 1991 Paris peace agreement, Kono said.

Kono said the government considers the current Cambodian situation does not violate Japan's preconditions for deploying peacekeepers. Among the conditions Japan sets are agreement on a cease-fire among the parties concerned and their acceptance of U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Kono said the Khmer Rouge faction has not opposed the UNTAC peacekeeping activities. Khmer Rouge guerrillas have been suspected of attacking UNTAC members over the last few months, in what appears to be an attempt to disrupt the scheduled May 23-28 general election. The faction has refused to participate in the election, claiming that Vietnamese troops are still in Cambodia.

Miyazawa: Russia Should Not Be Only Aid Target

*OW1305054293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0420 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa cautioned Thursday that international funds for economic reforms in Russia and other former communist countries should not be provided at the expense of the developing world, a Finance Ministry official said. While assistance for transforming centralized economies into market-oriented economies is important, the needs of developing nations must be kept in mind, Miyazawa was quoted as telling International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Michel Camdessus.

In reply, Camdessus urged Japan to support a new mechanism for funding heavy debtor nations that will replace the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility when it expires in November, the official said. The

Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (ESAF) allows borrowers to take out loans at an interest rate of 0.5 percent per annum, repayable over a period of up to 10 years.

Japan is the single largest donor to the program, providing 43 percent of the 5.1 billion dollar capital and 15 percent of the 2.6 billion dollar interest rate supplements.

Camdessus also explained ongoing negotiations on funds for Russia, the official said. Details were not immediately made public.

New Zealand Prime Minister Arrives for Visit

*OW1205054293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0419 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—New Zealand's Prime Minister James Bolger arrived Wednesday in Japan for a three-day visit to attend an international conference opening in Tokyo later in the day. Bolger will meet Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in the afternoon. He will speak on Thursday at the conference sponsored by the Asia Society.

Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed are also scheduled to speak at the conference on "Asia's Role in the Changing World Order."

Welcomes UN Resolution on DPRK

*OW1205095293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0937 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and New Zealand Prime Minister Jim Bolger on Wednesday hailed a U.N. Security Council resolution Tuesday on North Korea's nuclear program, Foreign Ministry officials said. The officials said Bolger, who arrived Wednesday for a three-day visit, joined Miyazawa in welcoming the resolution and sharing concern over North Korea's suspected nuclear ambitions during some 40 minutes of talks.

The Security Council resolution urged North Korea to rescind its decision to quit the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and accept special international inspections of two suspected nuclear weapons development facilities. The Council, in which Japan and New Zealand are nonpermanent members, voted 13-0 for the resolution, with China and Pakistan abstaining.

Bolger was quoted as saying it now remains to be seen how Pyongyang will react to the development.

The New Zealand leader told reporters Tuesday [11 May] in South Korea that when he visits Beijing from Friday he will ask China to help persuade North Korea to stay in the NPT and allow special inspections.

The U.N. resolution stopped short of imposing economic sanctions against North Korea for rejecting

nuclear inspections, primarily due to opposition from China, a long-time ally of Pyongyang.

Bolger's visit to Japan is the first by a New Zealand premier since then Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer came to Japan in July 1990.

He was meeting Miyazawa for the second time this month, the two having held talks May 1 when Miyazawa visited New Zealand. The first visit by a Japanese head of government since 1985.

Bolger is visiting Tokyo to deliver a keynote speech Thursday along with leaders of other Asia-Pacific countries at an Asia Society-sponsored conference.

Officials said Bolger told Miyazawa that New Zealand supports Japan's demand that Russia return four islands seized at the end of World War II and the major impediment to improved ties between Tokyo and Moscow.

On the Cambodian situation, Bolger reportedly characterized the political situation ahead of elections set to begin May 23 as "difficult."

He expressed regret over the ambush killing of a Japanese policeman in Cambodia last week, but said it is important for all countries to cooperate closely with the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). On Monday, UNTAC turned down Japanese requests to move its police officers away from danger zones in Cambodia and recall them from provincial areas to Phnom Penh for security consultations.

Officials said Bolger noted that New Zealand, Japan and other Security Council members will soon have to collaborate in charting the U.N.'s role in Cambodia after the elections.

Bolger reportedly spoke of New Zealand's desire to export apples to Japan, which has so far not been allowed because of concern any diseases or insects brought in might affect Japanese crops. Officials said Miyazawa replied he understands agricultural experts from both countries have been studying the issue and some headway has been made.

Bolger will travel to Osaka next Friday [14 May] to open a New Zealand tourism office.

New Zealand officials said Bolger will express hope additional flights to New Zealand from the new Kansai International Airport will lead to further expansion of its tourism and trade links with the region. Japanese make up the third highest number of overseas tourists to New Zealand and provide the largest source of its overseas tourist revenue.

MITI Urges Major Firms To Expand Imports

*OW1205051593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0437 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) urged major Japanese companies Wednesday to expand imports in an effort to help reduce Japan's huge trade surplus, ministry officials said. Top MITI officials held a meeting with executives of 177 major companies to make the request, the officials said.

Japan's trade surplus, amounting to more than 100 billion dollars a year, has been a source of persistent economic friction with other countries.

The officials said the ministry will tell the companies to work out import expansion programs with specific import value targets.

At the meeting, International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori urged the companies to cooperate with the national import promotion campaign, noting Japan's imports in fiscal 1992 increased only 0.3 percent from the previous year. Mori asked the companies to send specialists on overseas import promotion assignments and to offer technical aid to foreign companies to help them increase exports to Japan, the officials said.

Koichiro Ejiri, president of the Japan Foreign Trade Council grouping Japanese trading firms, pledged to help Japanese companies expand their overseas operations and sought stepped-up government efforts to boost domestic demand.

Individual Rice Imports Under 100 Kg Sanctioned

*OW1105142693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1406 GMT
11 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—The food agency said Tuesday that the government will sanction individual imports of foreign rice of up to 100 kilograms if they arrive through international mail.

Agency head Toshihiko Tsuruoka said it is unnecessary to get government permission for such imports. His remarks were in reply to a question by an opposition Diet member at the House of Councillors' farm committee.

Japan bans rice imports in principle but allows small amounts if they are for individual use, and not for sale. The weight ceiling for one parcel of international mail is set at 20 kilograms but no criteria was stipulated on the amount of such individual imports, according to the agency.

The agency said an importer in Chiba Prefecture plans to import rice from California on a membership system. The import cost for 18 kilograms of rice, including postage, is about 7,000 yen, the same level as standard rice produced in Japan, according to the agency.

'Difficulty' in Reaching Tax Revenue Aim Noted

*OW1005135993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1131 GMT
10 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—A top Finance Ministry official said Monday that the government will have difficulty in attaining its fiscal 1992 tax revenue target, which was revised after the formation of the supplementary budget last December. The official, who asked not to be named, cited falling transfer incomes due to decreasing land deals as the main reason.

The government hopes to raise 57.63 trillion yen to fund the general account budget in the fiscal year which ended in March. Only 73.5 percent has been accumulated so far.

On tax system reforms, including a consumption tax hike, the official said they should be considered in medium- and long-term perspectives with a taxation balance among incomes, consumption and assets in mind. The official also said the tax system reforms would involve a review of social insurance systems such as medical services and pensions.

Postal Savings Reportedly Top 170 Trillion Yen

*OW1005105393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1043 GMT
10 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 10 KYODO—The balance of postal savings as of the end of April topped the 170 trillion yen level for the first time, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications said Monday. The balance, at 170,915.2 billion yen, showed a 0.7 percent increase from the month before.

The savings posted a net increase of 636.6 billion yen during April thanks mainly to an appreciable increase in ordinary savings, resulting from the national treasury's payments of annuities.

Fixed-amount savings registered a net increase of 170.1 billion yen, an 81 percent plunge from that recorded a year earlier. Fixed-amount savings increased appreciably in April last year from the month before as people rushed to deposit money to post offices before an interest cut, ministry officials said.

Miyazawa: Rebound Shows Economy 'Bottomed Out'

*OW1105064893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0126 GMT
11 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 11 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Tuesday the stock market rebound is a sign that the national economy has bottomed out. Miyazawa was asked by reporters in the Diet for comment on the Tokyo stock market's sharp advance in the morning, which kept the key Nikkei index above the 21,000 line it breached Monday.

The prime minister, however, also said he does not expect either a quick economic recovery or a renewed

slowdown. "I don't believe it will recover quickly and substantially, but there will not be a fallback," he said.

EPA: Economy Moves Showing 'Some' Recovery

*OW1205034393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0045 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—The Economic Planning Agency [EPA] used the word "recovery" in its monthly economic report released Wednesday for the first time since September 1991 when it noted the economy's deceleration.

The agency said in the report that, based on the latest economic statistics, the nation's economy is "showing some moves suggesting a recovery," although overall it is still in a sluggish state. Economists and business people started talking about signs of an upturn much earlier, but the agency has refrained from doing so until this month.

An agency official, briefing reporters, said the latest report does not mean a final judgment has been made that the economy has bottomed out.

He remained prudent about making bright projections for the forthcoming months as well, pointing out that an indicator for industrial output suggests that Japanese production may show declines in April and May in month-on-month terms. In the case of the last economic downturn in the mid-1980s, the agency first spoke of recovery in August 1987, but only much later confirmed that the economy had in fact bottomed out in November 1986.

The effects of the recent rapid appreciation of the yen against the U.S. dollar have not yet showed up in the statistics the agency monitors, the officials said.

According to the report, endorsed at the day's ministerial meeting, the bright signs appear in such areas as new car sales and housing starts. Industrial production, shipments and inventory all show signs of improvement. But overall personal consumption grew little, the report said, while corporate profits continued to shrink and employment was still on the decline.

The report noted that the government had approved a pump-priming package of 13.2 trillion yen—the largest of its kind—on April 13, and is pushing for its steady implementation.

Job Training for Retrenched Workers Planned

*OW1205094193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0839 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Tokyo, May 12 KYODO—The Labor Ministry disclosed plans Wednesday to establish a job training center and offer placement services for middle-aged white-collar workers whose jobs are being jeopardized under companies' personnel reduction programs.

Construction work on the training center, to be built in Tokyo's suburbs, will start within this year and will be completed in two years, ministry officials said. The

center is expected to offer training in personnel administration, accounting, and other fields.

An existing ministry-backed employment office will offer placement services for white-collar workers with specialist skills and knowledge, beginning in July, the officials said.

The ministry has appropriated 16.8 billion yen for the plans under the fiscal 1993 supplementary budget, which will be submitted to the Diet Friday, they said.

An increasing number of Japanese companies are asking their excess middle-aged personnel to resign voluntarily or transferring them to subsidiaries amid the serious domestic economic slump.

North Korea

Pyongyang: U.S. Freezing of Assets 'Challenge'

SK1305105893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1052 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—The United States has recently frozen assets of some countries including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from bank accounts and in real estate, labelling them as "nations aiding international terrorism", AFP reported.

This is an undisguised challenge to the DPRK. This means that the U.S. "economic sanctions" against the DPRK have reached a full-fledged practical stage.

We categorically reject this unjustifiable step of the United States and declare it null and void.

The world recognizes that the DPRK has made consistent efforts for an end to all manner of terrorism.

Then, how can it be a nation aiding international terrorism and be a target of freeze of assets?

We can never tolerate this unreasonable step taken by the United States, while bringing the DPRK's "nuclear problem" to the United Nations and adopting a so-called "resolution" from the position of strength.

As for a nation supporting terrorism, it is the United States itself.

The United States with terrorism as its state policy has hundreds of terrorist organizations in different countries and openly commits international terrorism, paying tens of billions of dollars to the terrorists every year.

It is nobody's secret that commander of the national guards of Panama Torrijos and Mozambican President Moises Machel were victims of terrorism committed under the U.S. patronage and with its financial support. Such instances are countless.

The step of the United States is a stop-gap measure to conceal its sinister nature as the chieftain of international terrorism.

It is foolish of the U.S. imperialists to try to isolate and stifle Korean-style socialism centred on the popular masses with the freeze of assets.

The United States must clearly see the unshakable will of the Korean people and revoke the unreasonable step at once.

Envoy to PRC Reiterates Call for U.S. Talks

HK1305053293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0518 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Beijing, May 13 (AFP)—North Korea hopes to open early negotiations with the United States on Pyongyang's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, but would react to any U.N. sanctions as a "declaration of war," its ambassador here said Thursday. "The United States say they would have negotiations, but they have not raised the date and where the talks would take place," North Korean Ambassador to China Chu Chang-chun said.

"We expressed our hope that the earlier the negotiations the better," Chu told a news conference. The ambassador repeated North Korea's rejection of a United Nations Security Council resolution Tuesday that urged Pyongyang to reconsider its decision to withdraw from the Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

KCNA Claims U.S. 'Atrocities' Against POW's

SK1305054793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—People of all social standings in the northern half of Korea are scathingly denouncing the atrocious murder of prisoners of war of the Korean People's Army by the U.S. imperialists in Kojima Island in the period of the Korean war (June 1950-July 1953).

Yim Kun-pok, president of the University of Construction and Building Materials Production, said that the shocking atrocities of the U.S. imperialists in murdering the POWs of the North side as Guinea pigs for chemical and biological weapons were a malicious challenge to the Korean people and a never-to-be-condoned heinous crime that violated the Geneva accord on POWs and other international conventions. He bitterly condemned them as war criminals and human butchers.

"The U.S. imperialists are, indeed, the sworn enemy with whom the Korean people cannot live under the same sky," he said, declaring: "The Korean people will certainly make the enemy pay a thousand-fold for the blood shed by fellow countrymen at the hand of the enemy."

Pak Su-pom, director of the Kim Chong-tae electric locomotive complex, said the barbarity of the U.S. imperialists who made KPA prisoners of war as Guinea pigs for mass destruction weapons was genocide and anti-humanity heinous crime that could be committed

only by the descendants of the colonizers who murdered nearly all the American natives and battered with aggression and looting on the pool of their blood and heaps of their bodies.

"The United States must apologize for the atrocious murder of KPA prisoners of war, make public its truth and face judgement by the Korean nation and the world's conscience," he demanded.

Yi Ong-sop, chairman of the Yokho District Cooperative Farm Management Committee, Pyongyang, said: "We will never forget the atrocities committed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors on the Korean soil although years pass by and the rivers and mountains change. The U.S. imperialists should go back home from South Korea without delay, taking along the aggression troops and nuclear weapons," he said.

Kim Sang-hui, a section chief of the Mansudae Art Studio, who is an eye-witness of the atrocities of the U.S. imperialists, said he shuddered at the mere recollection of those days. "The Korean people will get payed a thousand-fold the price of the blood of our fellow soldiers who were brutally murdered."

KCNA Reports 13 May U.S. 'Air War Exercise'

*SK1305051593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500
GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors on May 11 staged an air war exercise aimed at intensive bombing raids on strategic targets in the northern half of Korea in the skies above Muju, Chongju, Yaju and Yongwol, South Korea, according to military sources.

Involved in it were formations of Pacific-based nuclear-capable fighter-bombers, pursuit and assault planes and other types of warplanes, more than 200 in all.

On the same day, overseas-based antisubmarine patrol planes carried out an air espionage. And a U-2 high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane flying above the area of the Military Demarcation Line made an aerial photographing and electronic reconnaissance on the northern half of Korea, and some 10 army and airforce tactical reconnaissance planes perpetrated an intensive air espionage on the inland and frontline areas of the North.

The tensions and the danger of war are increasing on the Korean peninsula due to the U.S. imperialist aggressors' invariable policy of war.

The U.S. imperialists must ponder over the grave consequences to be entailed by such moves and stop acting recklessly.

Daily Denies U.S.-Japan Missile 'Propaganda'

*SK1305060793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0542
GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today comments on the utterances of some U.S. and Japanese officials that "North Korea is promoting the development of new-type missiles and nuclear weapons at the same time" and so the U.S. and Japan should strengthen "cooperation" to cope with it.

This is an utterly groundless false propaganda which suggests that the U.S. and Japanese ruling quarters in conspiracy are directing the spearhead of attack to the DPRK, the news analyst says, and adds:

The main goal set by the U.S. and Japanese ruling quarters in establishing their domination over the Asia-Pacific area is to contain and stifle socialism in this region. This is why they are now getting more overheated than ever before in the anti-DPRK campaign.

KCNA Quotes UK Paper on Japan's Plutonium

*SK1205121593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—Japan secretly introduced more than one ton of plutonium from Britain, which is enough to make 100 nuclear bombs, the British newspaper OBSERVER reported on May 9.

Japan had shipped in a large amount of plutonium from France in several instalments.

Japan's stock of plutonium at present amounts to scores of tons.

Not content with it, however, Japan undertook some time ago a large-scale nuclear reprocessing facility project whereby to extract five tons of plutonium annually.

This vividly proves how desperately Japan is trying to become a nuclear power.

Japan's nuclear development poses a great threat to the Korean people in particular. Because Japan, situated very near to Korea geographically, has not given up her despicable intention to stifle the Korean socialist system. [sentence as received]

It is shameless, indeed, of Japan to raise a hue and cry over the fictitious "nuclear arms development" of the DPRK, while herself making haste with nuclear development threatening it.

Japan must drop the bad habit of taking issue with others and promptly give up its design to become a nuclear power, not forgetting the lessons of history as a nuclear victim.

Daily Insists ROK Accept 'Four-Point Demand'*SK1305055793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0515
GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—The "vice-minister of the Unification Board" of South Korea said the four-point demand raised by the North to the South Korean authorities at the 5th session of the 9th Supreme People's Assembly was "unacceptable." MINJU CHOSON today brands his statement as a declaration that he would continue to wield the whip on board the flunkeyist and treacherous chariot left behind by the preceding military fascist groups and an anti-national remark that can be uttered only by those who do not want reunification of the country.

The news analyst says:

We demanded that the South Korean authorities clearly manifest their position as to the four points—to renounce the policy of dependence on outside forces, manifest their will to get the U.S. forces withdrawn, put a final stop to joint military exercises with foreign forces and break away from the U.S. "nuclear umbrella"—as an expression of their desire for independence.

How they approach these points is a criterion judging the independent stand of the South Korean authorities and a yardstick distinguishing whether the South Korean "government" is a civilian government, or not.

A few days ago, a "spokesman of the unification board" of South Korea announced that they had decided "not to deliver" our letters enclosed with "appeal to the 70 million fellow countrymen" to the addressees.

There is no room for the anti-national forces to stay within our nation that has started a grand march for national reunification under the banner of great national unity.

The South Korean authorities must know this clearly, accept our four-point demand and promptly deliver our letters to the addressees.

ROK Officials' Remarks on 12 Dec Denounced**CPRF Denounces Premier's Remarks***SK1205153393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1522
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—The "prime minister" of South Korea, claiming a "civilian government", publicly said on the rostrum of the "National Assembly" that the "December 12 Army purge coup" was a legal action, not "illegal".

This vividly reveals the real intention of the incumbent South Korean rulers to defend their predecessors, military fascist dictators, and keep in the dark the crimes committed under the "Fifth and Sixth Republics", says

the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] in its Information No. 628 dated May 11.

When his exasperating utterance at the "National Assembly" touched off a storm of reaction from the South Korean political and public circles the "prime minister" made a show of "apology" saying he "didn't really mean it". But this is a ridiculous ruse to evade showers of arrows for the present.

The South Korean authorities must take a step of sacking the "prime minister" as justly demanded by the political and public circles, instead of trying to mock the people with such a farce of "apology".

If the South Korean "regime" really has any intention to seek "civilian government" and "reform", it must not defend the criminal deeds of the preceding military fascist dictators but pry into and make them public and decisively break with the "Fifth and Sixth Republics". And it must severely punish the prime movers in the "December 12 Army purge coup" and chief culprits in the Kwangju blood-bath and promptly scrap the anti-reunification fascist laws like the "National Security Law".

Commentary on Premier's Remarks*SK1305014093 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 10 May 93*

[Unattributed commentary: "Mouthpiece For Fifth and Sixth Republics"]

[Text] Some time ago, Hwang In-song, South Korean prime minister, was denounced by public opinion for his remarks at the South Korean National Assembly that he will not abolish the National Security Law. Appearing in the Assembly's plenary meeting on 8 May, he answered the raised questions with a ridiculous and outrageous gibberish.

He raved that although the 12 December 1979 incident [the arrest of the ROK Army chief of staff by Armed Forces Security Commander Chon Tu-hwan and his followers] was a military action waged under a special situation, the action was not violation of laws.

A person called prime minister of the so-called civilian government openly protected unlawful and immoral violence committed by military hooligans. We cannot repress our surprise and shock at this.

As has been known, the 12 December incident was a military coup committed by the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group under the U.S. imperialists' patronage to stifle the people's aspiration to independence, democracy and reunification, and to usurp power. The people's aspirations have been increasing since the collapse of the Yusin [Pak Chong-hui] dictatorship.

Chon Tu-hwan, then Armed Forces security commander, and No Tae-u, then the 9th Division commander of the puppet army, mobilized several thousand

armed troops under a careful plan, and occupied the Army headquarters. Thus, they eliminated about 50-odd generals all at once.

In a Kwanhun Club [ROK senior journalist club in Seoul] meeting in November 1987, No Tae-u himself confessed that during the time of the 12 December incident, a reserve regiment of the 9th Division, which he was commanding, was mobilized at his order. Thus, he admitted the crime.

Usurping power through the 12 December military coup was followed by the 17 May violence [repression of student demonstrations in Kwangju] in the following year and by the Kwangju massacre. Thus, the Fifth Republic, an unprecedentedly cruel fascist regime, was born.

As illustrated by all facts, the 12 December military coup was an intolerable illegal act which reversed with guns and bayonets the South Korean society's democratic development. Traitors Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u, the ringleaders, should have deserved been brought to the trial by history and should have been punished.

In an article entitled, "Traitors Must Be Investigated" carried in a recent edition of the weekly magazine, "SISA JOURNAL," Chang Tae-wan, who was commander of the Capital Garrison Command at that time, branded the 12 December incident as a military rebellion and said that he plans to bring charges against the ringleaders of the rebellion.

Nevertheless, Hwang In-song said that the 12 December military coup was not illegal, thus attempting to justify it, and protected the ringleaders. This is a challenge to the South Korean people's aspirations to democratization and is not unbecoming to civilian politics advocated by the incumbent regime.

That day, Hwang In-song also expressed the Kwangju popular uprising as the Kwangju incident, thus describing it as a revolt by mobs, and ridiculed the democratization movement. He claimed that he cannot hold hearings on the Fifth and Sixth Republics.

Close examination of truth of the Kwangju massacre, punishment of those responsible for the massacre and separation from the military fascist forces of the Fifth and Sixth Republics are an indispensable precondition for realizing genuine civilian politics in South Korea.

Therefore, the people from all social strata and democratic forces in South Korea are unanimously demanding them. Nevertheless, Hwang In-song claimed that he cannot carry them out. How should we regard his act?

Clearly, Hwang In-song is not a person who will implement civilian politics but is a mouthpiece of the Fifth and Sixth Republics. Viewing his career, he is the one who faithfully served the military fascist dictators. He served in the Army for about 20 years after he entered

the puppet military academy. Even after he was discharged from the Army, he held the positions of provincial governor, minister, and parliamentarian of the Democratic Justice Party during the period of the Fifth and Sixth Republics after the Yusin regime. He was also chief policymaker of the Democratic Liberal Party.

Therefore, it is nothing new for him to protect and support the crimes of the Fifth and Sixth Republics and to frantically oppose separation from them. That he is acting arrogantly as the so-called prime minister of the civilian government itself is laughable. No one would regard the regime embracing such person as a genuine civilian government.

Hwang In-song should be the first target for reform to realize civilian and democratic politics in South Korea.

Even the Democratic Party and the Party of New Politics, the South Korean opposition parties, denounced as an anti-historic and antidemocratic utterance Hwang In-song's absurd remarks to justify the 12 December coup and to ridicule the Kwangju popular uprising. They urged the South Korean ruler to dismiss Hwang In-song and to show the shape of the genuine civilian government.

Today people are watching how the South Korean regime will respond to the just demand of the opposition parties and people. If the South Korean regime is truly interested in carrying out civilian politics and reform, it should first remove this man, the mouthpiece of the Fifth and Sixth Republics.

Daily on Foreign Minister's Remarks

SK1305103993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005
GMT 13 May 93

["Hand-raised Servant of Military Dictatorship"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—South Korean "Prime Minister" Hwang In-song at a recent "National Assembly session" zealously defended the crimes of the "Fifth and Sixth Republics" including the "December 12 Army purge coup."

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says this is another intolerable criminal act challenging the demand and aspiration of the people.

The analyst notes:

He, preposterously enough, said his "government" had no plan to "undertake the opening of the property of former presidents to the public" and it would not accept the demand for a hearing to dig up the irregularities of the "Sixth Republic".

The present rulers themselves had stated that "irregularities should be liquidated without a sanctuary", but now refuse to "make public the property of former presidents". This is a very unfair act. In this regard public

opinion brands the "liquidation of injustice" as nothing but a popularity-hunting drama.

A hearing on the "Sixth Republic" must be held by the new "regime" advertising "civilian politics" for the investigation into the crimes committed by the preceeding dictatorial rule and their liquidation. Hwang In-song also refuses to investigate into the crimes of Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u, leaving people bewildered. And this gives rise to the natural doubt if the present "regime" with such a fellow as the "prime minister" could really be a "civilian government".

By taking the lead in defending the crimes of the preceeding dictators, the South Korean "prime minister" betrayed his treacherous nature as an old servant of the "Fifth and Sixth Republics."

If the new "regime" of South Korea intends to pursue "civilian politics", it must make such men as Hwang In-song the first targets of reform and bring the chieftains of the dictatorship of the "Fifth and Sixth Republics" to a hearing and punish them. By so doing, it must practically show the appearance of a "civilian government".

Youths Urge Probe Into ROK Students' Deaths

*SK1305055193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510
GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the North side's headquarters of the Pan-national Federation of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification (Pomchonghaknyon) in a statement on May 12 strongly urged the South Korean authorities to make a thorough probe into the truth behind the death of Yun To-in and Hwang Hye-kyong, activist students of the Kyongnam University General Student Council, and punish the murderers.

The suspicion that the tragic death of the two students was a work of terrorists within the ruling force cannot be dispelled unless the "National Security Law" which has backed the military fascist rule legally and institutionally is abolished and the "Security Planning Board" and "secret affairs command" are disbanded, although they are loudmouthed over "reform" in South Korea, the spokesman said.

He expressed the hope that fellow students in the South would launch into a drive for a probe into the truth behind the death of the two students during the period of the righteous may struggle due to be waged in memory of the victims of the Kwangju uprising.

He stressed that the North side's headquarters of the Pomchonghaknyon and all the students would not cease their struggle, acting shoulder to shoulder with all the fellow students under the South side's headquarters, till the truth behind the death of the two dear fellow students has been thoroughly probed and the "National Security Law", "Security Planning Board" and "secret affairs

command", legal and institutional devices that caused such tragedies, have disappeared for good.

Zimbabwe's Mugabe Concludes Visit to Pyongyang

Holds Talks With Kim Il-song

*SK1205152393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—Talks were held here today between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK; Kim Tal-hyon, alternate Politburo member of the C.C., WPK and vice-premier of the Administration Council; Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army Kim Hwang-chin; Yi Song-tae, chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission; Kang Sok-chu, first vice-minister of foreign affairs; and Yi Myong-chol, DPRK ambassador E.P. [extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Zimbabwe.

On the opposite side were Richard C. Hove, national economic planning commissioner in the president's office; Christopher M. Ushewokunze, minister of industry and commerce; Elleck K. Mashingaidze, permanent secretary in the president's office; Stanislaus G. Chigwedere, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; B. G. Chidyausiki, Zimbabwean ambassador E.P. to Korea; and others.

The talks took place in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Lays Wreath at Martyrs Cemetery

*SK1205155393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1533
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, on an official goodwill visit to Korea today, together with his party, laid a wreath before the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong and observed a moment's silence in memory of the revolutionary martyrs who devoted their whole life to the noble cause of the freedom and happiness of the Korean people.

Today they went round various circle rooms of the Mangyongdae school children's palace, a comprehensive centre of extramural education of school children, and saw a performance given by art circle members at the theatre of the palace.

The guests were accompanied by Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and officials concerned.

Holds Private Talks With Kim Il-song

*SK1205160793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1550
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—Tete-a-tete talks were held today between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Union and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

Attends Kim Il-song-Hosted Luncheon

*SK1205160993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1552
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today arranged a luncheon for Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The luncheon proceeded in an amicable atmosphere.

President Robert G. Mugabe expressed deep thanks to President Kim Il-song for the warm hospitality accorded him during his visit.

President Kim Il-song exchanged parting words with him.

Interviewed by Newsmen Before Departure

*SK1305062093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0549
GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—Zimbabwe supports the position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the reunification of the country and this support is firm and full, Zimbabwean President Robert G. Mugabe told news agency and radio reporters Wednesday before leaving Pyongyang after his visit to Korea.

He told newsmen: "We will continue to render our political and diplomatic support needed for this purpose in our regional arena and international bodies with which we are affiliated."

"We support particularly the reunification of the two parts of Korea on the principles laid down by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song."

Turning to the "nuclear problem," he said:

"I hope that the DPRK will certainly succeed in its efforts for negotiation with the United States and I am satisfied with this. The 'nuclear problem' must be solved this way, I think.

"My government and I myself express deep concern over the fact that this 'nuclear problem' has been raised now when North-South dialogue is suspended.

"I know that the International Atomic Energy Agency has made several rounds of nuclear inspection of the DPRK and expressed satisfaction with its results.

"The point at issue is 'inspection' of military bases in the territory of the DPRK. It is evident that no country will accept such demand.

"If such 'inspection' were carried out, your military bases, munitions factories and all other military facilities would be exposed worldwide and opened to the public. All countries must be treated impartially.

"In this world, there are countries which are bigger than the DPRK and have their own nuclear weapons. Why are such countries not inspected first?

"The idea of comrade President Kim Il-song, the great leader, is to totally remove nuclear weapons from the whole sphere of the Korean peninsula.

"In other words, it is to denuclearize the Korean peninsula.

"We advocate the denuclearization of the whole world. So we fully support the idea of denuclearization from an objective point of view.

"We strongly oppose the resolution on nuclear disarmament adopted at the United Nations being abused by some big powers in sounding the military bases and capacities of small countries."

Leaves Pyongyang 12 May

*SK1205154493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1536
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, left here today by special plane after successfully winding up his official goodwill visit to Korea at the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The president and his party were seen off at the airport by Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president, and officials concerned.

A farewell function took place at the airport.

President Robert G. Mugabe, accompanied by Vice-president Yi Chong-ok, reviewed a guard of honor of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

The Zimbabwean guests were warmly farewelled at the airport by thousands of working people in Pyongyang with miniature flags of the two countries and bunches of flowers in their hands.

Military Attaches Visit Three-Revolution Museum

*SK1305060393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0540
GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—Military attaches of foreign embassies in Pyongyang on May 12 visited the Three-Revolution Exhibition which has been grandly built here.

The exhibition is a comprehensive one which consummates proud achievements of the Korean people in the struggle to carry out the line of three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural under the wise leadership of the party and the leader.

After visiting it, military attache of the Cuban embassy Emillio Morales Segui wrote in the visitors' book on behalf of the Military Attaches' Corps that the Korean people have made great achievements in the socialist construction under the wise guidance of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Government Builds Monument Commemorating War

*SK1205050193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1522
GMT 11 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 11 (KCNA)—A monument to the victory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War is being constructed on a bank of River Potong in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The monument being built on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the war (July 27, 1953) is designed to hand down to generations to come the feats of the People's Army soldiers who fought heroically for the freedom and independence of the country in the fatherland liberation war.

The monument occupying an area of 150,000 square metres consists of a monument inscribed with the autograph of the great leader President Kim Il-song, an ode monument, a tower gate of double eaves, two gateposts depicting flag with red marbles, the group sculptures of the main theme portraying the heroic mettle of the men and officers of the People's Army crying hurrah, flying the flag of the republic, and the group sculptures of subsidiary theme representing the scenes of battles and the struggle of the people in formative art.

The project which started in May last year is progressing at fast pace amid the keen interests and expectations of the people across country.

The builders and helpers, in less than one year, have moved 150,000 cubic metres of earth, tamped 2,500 cubic metres of concrete, cut and assembled 10,000 square metres of stones, and created woods of 50,000 hectares, thus carrying out 80 percent on the whole program.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government have built monuments and towers to convey the glorious course of the Korean revolution to the posterity.

Monuments and towers have been erected in Pyongyang, Hyesan, Pochonbo, Taehongdan, Wangjaesan, Wonsan, the West Sea barrage and many other places of the country, which stand as witnesses of history by showing the struggle of the anti-Japanese fighters, the People's Army soldiers and the people of Korea in the periods of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, the Fatherland Liberation War and socialist construction.

Symposium on Revolutionary Drama Held 11 May

*SK1205153993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517
GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—A symposium on the chuche-oriented literary and art idea of the revolutionary drama "Under the Banner of Victory" was held Tuesday [11 May].

The drama depicts the heroic struggle of the Korean people and People's Army from the autumn of 1952 to the day of the military parade celebrating the victory in the rigorous war decisive of the destiny of the country.

The speakers said the drama vividly shows that the historic victory in the Fatherland Liberation War was won under the great guidance of the respected leader President Kim Il-song who led the whole party, army and people to sacred battles against the enemy with unique strategic and tactical policies, chuche-based war methods and outstanding commanding art.

Noting that the drama was a successful one which fully embodied the chuche-oriented literary and art theory of our party on the portrayal of the leader in art works, they said it gave an emotional depiction of the great leadership traits of the respected leader as an outstanding military strategist and an ever-victorious, iron-willed brilliant commander.

They also said the drama gives a representation of optimistic story that respected President Kim Il-song met designers and researchers of the fibre institute by the table for mapping out operations at the supreme command and unfolded a bright blueprint for postwar rehabilitation and construction, foreseeing the future of the triumphant country in the days of the rigorous war. Through this, it successfully shows that he is an ever-victorious, iron-willed brilliant commander and the

great leader of the people with clairvoyance and the noble idea of "believing in the people as in heaven."

The speakers stressed that the revolutionary drama profoundly depicts the greatness of the human virtues of the respected leader.

They said the drama shows in a profound way that the great leader and the People's Army soldiers and people were in the relationship of leading and being led and also in the blood relationship between the political defender and soldiers, the relationship of taking care of the soldiers' destiny and entrusting their destiny to the leader, trusting and loving each other. The speakers said this was a new high stage the drama reached in the portrayal of the leader.

Daily Explains Tenth Point in Unity Program

*SK1205152693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506
GMT 12 May 93*

[“Motive Force Leading Whole Nation to Comprehensive Unity”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a by-lined article explaining the tenth point of the “10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation for reunification of the country” put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the 10-point programme says:

“10. Those who have contributed to the great unity of the nation and to the cause of national reunification should be highly estimated.”

The article notes:

The great leader says in the tenth point of the programme that those who have contributed to the great unity of the nation and to the cause of national reunification should be highly estimated, thereby providing a reliable guarantee for a comprehensive unity of the whole nation.

What is important in appraising people is, above all, to grant special favors to those who have performed feats for the great unity of the nation and the reunification of the country, patriotic martyrs and their descendants.

To do this work well would make those who have set out on a true road of patriotism for national reunification feel pride and honor and enjoy an immortal life through generations and, at the same time, would induce those who have stayed away from this patriotic road to actively take it without hesitation.

Another important point in estimation is that if those who had betrayed the nation in the past take the road of patriotism, remorseful of their past, they should be

treated leniently and be assessed fairly according to their contributions to the cause of national reunification.

The tenth point carries the noble intention of the great leader to put the common interests of the nation above anything else, accelerate the cause of national reunification by pooling the efforts of the whole nation and place those who have lived an unworthy life to take the road of patriotism for national reunification.

KCNA Reviews 13 May Pyongyang Press

*SK1305062293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0538
GMT 13 May 93*

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, May 13 (KCNA)—Papers here today frontpage photo-accompanied reports that a tete-a-tete and talks were held between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African national union-patriotic union and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe and a report that President Kim Il-song entertained President Mugabe to a luncheon.

Carried in the press are photo-accompanied accounts of the sojourn of the Zimbabwean president here and his departure from Pyongyang and news of his press interview.

It is reported in the press that the great leader President Kim Il-song sent messages to foreign party leaders in reply to their messages of greetings on his birthday.

Printed in the press is a letter to President Kim Il-song from the participants in the Portuguese national seminar of the *chuche* idea on the present era and the building of an independent new society.

Appearing in the press are solidarity messages to President Kim Il-song from foreign party leaders supporting the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation.

According to NODONG SINMUN, the work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il “abuses of socialism are intolerable” was reported abroad.

The paper carries a story telling that Comrade Kim Chong-il is always finding himself among armymen to guide them to creditably fulfil their honorable duty to defend the country.

The press reports that the teachers and students of the Kim Chaek university of technology met to thoroughly implement the teachings of President Kim Il-song and a seminar on the *chuche*-oriented literary and art idea represented in the revolutionary drama “under the banner of victory” was held.

The press carries news of rice transplanting on cooperative farms.

Spotlighted in the press is a statement released by a spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry rejecting the unreasonable "resolution" adopted at the United Nations Security Council on May 11 over the DPRK's withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

Carried in papers are home and foreign public voices and articles supporting the 10-point programme of great unity of the whole nation.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary denouncing the South Korean "prime minister" for defending crimes committed by the "Fifth and Sixth Republics" such as the "December 12 army purge coup" and the Kwangju massacre.

A MINJU CHOSON analyst lashes at the remarks of the "vice-minister of the unification board" of South Korea that the North's four-point demand urging the South Korean authorities to renounce the policy of dependence on outside forces, manifest the willingness to get the U.S. forces out of South Korea, etc. "was unacceptable".

NODONG SINMUN carries an article exposing the arms buildup by the South Korean authorities and military for invading the northern half of the country.

Conveyed in the paper are world public voices supporting the Korean people's just cause under the headline "independent Korean people do not yield to any pressure and strongarm acts."

The general secretary of the new Yugoslav Communist Movement stated that the Pyongyang declaration has displayed invincible vitality with great attraction, reports the paper.

MINJU CHOSON carries a commentary denouncing the outcries of the U.S. and Japanese ruling quarters for "cooperation" to cope with the fictitious "simultaneous promotion of the development of new-type missiles and nuclear weapons" by the DPRK and an article exposing the development of nuclear weapons in South Korea.

The press informs the readers that India strongly spurned the U.S. threat, the Malaysian prime minister spoke of the independent stand of his government and a spokesman for the Chinese foreign ministry reiterated China's stand toward the Taiwan problem.

South Korea

More on UNSC Resolution on DPRK Nuclear Issue

Kim Foresees Neutral PRC Stand

SK1205140893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0932 GMT
12 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam said on Wednesday [12 May] he believes that

if and when the United Nations takes an economic sanction against North Korea in connection with its nuclear issues, China would take a neutral stand. The president made the remarks while meeting at Chongwadae with a group of visiting American world affairs experts including Christopher Demuth, president of the American Enterprise Institute (AEI).

Chongwadae spokesman Yi Kyong-chae reported that President Kim also said that he is sure that Korea-U.S. relations would continue to develop into a special alliance and partners relationship in all major areas such as security, trade, and science-technology. In this regard, I look forward to continued concern and efforts on the part of leading U.S. officials within and without the administration, he said.

Kim said his administration promotes internationalization and self-ruling as a basis of its economic policies. This, I think, will contribute to the promotion of economic and trade cooperations between our two countries, the president said. Six AEI researchers, including former Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and former U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, flew into Seoul on Tuesday for a three-day visit at the invitation of the Korea foundation.

Kim Urges End to Nuclear Ambitions

SK1205134793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0754 GMT
12 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam called Wednesday [12 May] on North Korea to give up its nuclear ambitions and resume inter-Korean dialogue to pave the way to peace and unification if it truly wanted the Korean people to be happy and prosperous. When North Korea decided to pull out of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, we were disappointed and worried because the decision attested to its desire to have nuclear weapons, he told leaders of overseas Korean communities in a meeting at Chongwadae.

By returning Yi In-mo to North Korea in spite of the problems involved, his administration gave top priority to the reunion of separated families in South and North Korea, Kim said. North Korea should not avoid that issue for any reason, he added.

Yi was a North Korean guerilla caught during the Korean war and jailed in South Korea as a communist until shortly before his return to North Korea in March. Kim predicted unification of Korea by the end of the century.

The government should make full preparations on the basis of a national consensus for peaceful reunification, because without preparations and efforts reunification would not come, he said. The leaders are among 450 delegates from 27 countries who came here to attend the fourth conference of representatives from overseas

Korean communities, which opened in Seoul Wednesday. The meeting will end Thursday morning after adopting a resolution.

Foreign Minister Addresses Assembly

*SK1305064493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea will contact North Korea directly and make other efforts to solve the nuclear problem in line with the U.N. resolution on North Korea if it thinks they will help. Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu told a National Assembly hearing on Thursday. Han, reporting on the U.N. resolution to the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, explained that China had abstained because it wanted the issue to be solved through dialogue between the parties concerned, rather than at the U.N. Security Council, though it was for the prevention of nuclear proliferation and denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The resolution was significant because it conveyed to North Korea the will of the security council, the body responsible for world peace and security, to grapple with the nuclear issue and recognized it as a matter of concern to the world community, he said. China, by not opposing the resolution, in a policy shift from the position of opposing the U.N. Security Council's taking up the issue, left room to join other nations in future international efforts to solve the issue, Han observed.

Since the resolution paved the way for U.N. member nations to make bilateral or multilateral contacts on the issue, the United States, China and other nations are expected to make individual or collective efforts to get North Korea to comply with the resolution. The International Atomic Energy Agency will also renew its effort to solve the issue, he added.

Minister Views U.S.-DPRK-Seoul Talks

*SK1305093393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0755 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Thursday the government did not rule out the possibility of simultaneous U.S.-North Korea and inter-Korean talks. Han, appearing before the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Reunification Committee, said the Foreign Ministry would discuss with the National Unification Board the issue of contacts between the two Koreas for solution of the North Korean nuclear issue.

Han said he opposed three-way talks among the two Koreas and the United States or four-way talks involving both Koreas, the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] because they were "ineffective." The government would ask China to participate in and cooperate with international efforts to get North Korea to immediately return to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty [NPT] and accept special nuclear

inspections by the IAEA, when Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen visited Seoul on May 26, he said.

Turning to extension of the NPT, Han said Seoul was supportive of strengthening and extending it. The NPT expires in 1995. "The system should be complemented in a way that helps solve the differential nature between the haves and have-nots and ensures a secure supply of nuclear technologies, information and resources for peaceful purposes," Han told the committee.

SRV Prime Minister Begins 4-Day Visit to Seoul

Arrives 13 May

*SK1305062393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0533 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet became the highest official visitor from the communist country in nearly 20 years when he arrived in Seoul on Thursday afternoon. Kiet brought a large government delegation, including his foreign minister, and a business delegation for the four-day visit. He is to meet with President Kim Yong-sam on Friday to discuss promotion of bilateral relations.

The prime minister is scheduled to tour major industrial sites, including those of Lucky-Goldstar, Daewoo and Samsung, before his departure Sunday. Seoul and Hanoi reestablished diplomatic relations, severed in 1975 when Vietnam was communized, on Dec. 22.

Kiet will sign trade, air services, and investment promotion and protection agreements while here as well as a convention for avoidance of double taxation. Two-way trade nearly doubled to 470 million U.S. dollars last year from 240 million dollars in 1991. Korea emerged as Vietnam's sixth largest investor during the first quarter of this year with 340 million dollars worth permitted by the Seoul Government.

Air, Trade, Investment Pacts Signed

*SK1305082693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0809 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Vietnam signed air, trade and investment agreements Thursday [13 May] giving each other most-favored-nation [MFN] status. The agreements were signed by Foreign Ministers Han Sung-chu of Korea and Nguyen Manh Cam of Vietnam. Cam arrived in Seoul earlier Thursday as part of a delegation accompanying Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

The air services agreement is expected to open soon regular direct flights between the two countries. The trade agreement established regular working-level trade meetings to discuss tariffs and customs regulations, while the investment protection pact guarantees MFN status in investment conditions and profit remittances. Seoul and Hanoi normalized relations Dec. 22.

PRC Foreign Minister To Visit Seoul 26-29 May*SK1305013393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0125 GMT
13 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will visit South Korea on May 26-29 to discuss bilateral relations and North Korea's nuclear problem, the Foreign Ministry announced Thursday. Qian, who is also deputy prime minister, will meet with President Kim Yong-sam on May 27 and is expected to promise Chinese efforts in solving North Korea's nuclear crisis.

Qian visits Seoul at a strategically critical time when the international community will have to decide whether to soften or toughen its actions on North Korea for its nuclear program. Pyongyang has announced that it is leaving the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) in retaliation for a demand by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to see two undeclared sites that are believed to hide nuclear materials.

The withdrawal becomes final on June 12, and the U.N. Security Council, where China has veto power, will have to decide before then on imposing sanctions on North Korea. China normalized relations with South Korea in August last year. Although it abstained from voting on the resolution Wednesday that urges North Korea to return to NPT and accept IAEA inspections, Beijing says it does not want any international pressure on North Korea over the nuclear issue.

Qian will be accompanied by Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan, who is in charge of Asian affairs. The two countries are expected to sign a maritime agreement during his visit. Seoul and Beijing will discuss early conclusion of agreements on aviation and avoidance of double taxation.

U.S. Involvement in POW Camp 'Tragedies' Viewed*SK1205111193 Seoul MAL in Korean Jun 92 pp 114-20*

[Article by correspondent Kim Taek-su: "U.S. Troops' Brutalities at the Koje Prisoner of War Camp"]

[Text] "U.S. soldiers were scary. I wore only white clothes"

The 25 June Korean war still continues on Koje Island, a "gulag archipelago." When can a joint service for the U.S. soldiers and those who died as victims of ideological conflicts take place? Our magazine has embarked on a search for witnesses on Koje Island, the "second battlefield" of the Korean war, to ensure that national tragedies like those in the Koje Prisoners of War Camp are not repeated.

"U.S. soldiers were scary. They prowled about and committed acts of violence, while shouting, "Girls!," "Girls," "I want girls." I had to stay in hiding. I was 22 then and married. My husband had joined the army. I had to wear only white clothes so as not to be caught by

U.S. soldiers. All of us wore white clothes because we looked older that way. U.S. soldiers beat an old man to death because he refused to let women out."

So said Kim Ma-re, 64, whom I met on my way to the remains of the POW camp, Kohyon-ri, Sinhyon-up, Koje County. She answered immediately when I asked: "How were the U.S. soldiers at that time?"

"Some low-class U.S. soldiers plundered civilian property and raped women on many occasions," said Yu Sang-on, 76, who lives in Kohyon-ri, Sinhyop-up. His testimony also depicted the behavior of U.S. soldiers 40 years ago.

This correspondent arrived in Pusan on 5 May [1992] to visit Koje Island to learn the truth about the 25 June war. I took a ferryboat bound for Changsungpo, Koje. The boat was filled with passengers, including lovers, who were going to Haegumgang on holiday, families who were enjoying Children's Day, and an old woman who said she was visiting her son-in-law who was a Daewoo Shipbuilding Company worker. Warm rays of the spring sun were breaking on the sea, and fan-shaped sprays of water often obstructed the scenery.

However, the sea of the Koje Island does not have only good memories. This sea witnessed the murder of innocent civilians by the Armed Forces Intelligence Unit, the Counterintelligence Corps, the Northwest Youth Corps, and the Mibodan group. This murder is called the "Koje Island Press League incident." In July and August 1950, approximately 500 innocent civilians were thrown into the sea southeast of Chisim Island. Before they were thrown into the sea, the thumbs of each of them had been tied together with steel wires, and they were then tied together in groups of five with steel wires. They were thrown into the sea with stones tied to their bodies. After this, residents of the Koje Island did not eat hair-tail fish for a while because they heard that hair-tails like to eat human corpses.

The boat arrived at Changsungpo when the water around Koje Island was no longer blue. When the U.S. Forces began their "invasion" of Koje Island, they traveled the same sea route that this correspondent did. A POW camp was established on Koje Island on 27 November 1950. The ROK Armed Forces Corps of Engineers requisitioned a site for the camp and leveled it. Then a U.S. supply unit built wire entanglements around the camp and pitched 24-man khaki-colored tents. In February 1952 POW's were transported from Pusan to Changpyong aboard LST's [landing ships]. The U.S. soldiers who arrived suddenly were not welcome guests to the residents who had been living peacefully on this backward island. Mr. Yu Sang-on described what happened at that time.

"As I was living on a peaceful island, I had never heard a gunshot at all. However, after a prisoners of war camp was built on the island, a bloody battle—of being killed and killing—continued, and our family was destined to be evicted from the house in which we had lived for a long

time. This happened suddenly, and I could hardly tell who was the master of the island. When I returned to my house on the day U.S. troops moved into the island, I found the commander of an engineer unit occupying it."

Mobilizing POW's, the U.S. Forces began to build the prisoners' camp on 3.6 million pyong covering Kohyon, Changpyong, Yongsan, Mundong, Yangjong, Suwol, and Chosanri, which are surrounded by Mt. Tokpong; Imjon and Songjong of Yoncho-myon; and Chogu-ri and Tapo-ri of Tongbu-myon.

"When building the camp they [U.S. Forces] destroyed the Koyon castle and cultural assets to reclaim low swamp areas. They were indifferent to 'historic remains.' The two km-long sandy beach of Chisepo was torn up and devastated. This was also because of the construction of the camp."

The U.S. Forces divided the camp area into four blocks and 24 sub-camps and interned a total of some 176,000 war prisoners, including 54,000 civilian prisoners; some 20,000 Chinese army war prisoners; and some 3,000 women war prisoners.

This correspondent went to Kohyon high school where historic remains of the camp were preserved. It took about 15 minutes to walk to the school from the place where I got off the bus. I could easily find the remains of the camp, which were to the left of the garden behind the school building, after I asked the girl students who were just returning to their classroom after physical exercise on the school grounds. The remains of the Koje POW camp that I could find are the camp commander's quarters, officers' quarters, military police office, the memorial tower of a fallen U.S. naval medical officer, post exchange building, and gymnasium in Kohyon-ri; a pillbox, CID barracks, the shower, toilets, and ammunition storage house in Yangjong-ri; the POW's detention house and a bakery in Suwol-ri; a supply warehouse and ammunition storage house in Changpyong-ri; and a signal unit on the mountain in Sandong-ri, for a total of 32 remains from 22 locations. All of these remains appeared old and gaunt.

The 25 June War of Koje Island Which Was Never Known to the Outside World

The beginning of the tragedy of slaughter in the Koje POW camp, the first camp in the world built under the UN flag, reflected another form of war which showed "a test of force" between the U.S. Forces and the People's Army of North Korea.

The UN forces and People's Army had a dispute about the repatriation of POW's at the armistice talks. The People's Army demanded that "the UN forces repatriate POW's unconditionally" pursuant to Article 118 of the Geneva Convention saying that "POW's must be released immediately and repatriated when the active hostile act ends." Then the UN forces put forth a new principle that "POW's will be repatriated according to their own free will." The dispute about the repatriation

of POW's in the Panmunjom armistice talks was a prelude to "the 25 June of Koje Island." The United States disregarded the Geneva Convention and refused to repatriate North Korean and Chinese POW's. This was done according to a plan of the Psychological Warfare Bureau of the U.S. Forces submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff about a week before the armistice talks began.

(Deimry Vess), deputy editor of the SATURDAY EVENING POST, wrote this on 1 November 1951: "At that time, no one expected that exchanges of POW's would create such complicated problems. The Psychological Warfare Bureau of the U.S. Forces in Washington, however, formulated a plan on 5 July, demanding that the United States determine whether it favored the forceful repatriation of POW's in the armistice talks. Also, this plan pointed out that our attitude toward the repatriation of POW's would surely become an element of psychological warfare. The chief of the Army General Staff sent a letter of recommendation to the chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff then, and it was delivered to a National Security Council meeting attended by President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson."

At the same time, in its intelligence reports the Clark United Nations Command in Tokyo defined the policy of the POW camp on Koje Island as "a new area for all-out warfare." The United States said that the struggle against communism could be waged in the POW camp as often as it was in frontlines. It also decided to reeducate POW's on Koje Island, even using force.

Although Washington denied this at that time, the U.S. Forces conducted a kind of psychological warfare against POW's on Koje Island. It demanded that POW's sing a song with anticommunist and anti-USSR words. They were forced to become believers in either Christianity or Buddhism.

The British paper NEW STATESMAN AND NATION reported: There are strong doubts that members of the Chiang Kai-shek Kuomintang were among employees who supervised the POW camp, but there is confirmation that they were mixed with POW's. It is not difficult to find out the true obligation of authorities of the Kuomintang government (or the ROK Government) who were sent from Taiwan. (Hal Bete) wrote (SINDONG-A, December 1966, p. 241): Officials of the United Nations Command who are very familiar with Asian affairs think that after reeducating POW's, rearming them to fight against their former rulers is a good method and appropriate to the oriental tradition.

At that time, the U.S. Forces apparently focused its reeducation program on the operation of converting POW's from communism. The International Red Cross Society also recommended suspending the political program entitled the "Training Program for Civilian Intelligence Education" conducted by the United States against POW's.

U.S. President Truman worked out a draft program called "The Plan for Resuscitation of POW's." According to this plan, former U.S. Army Major (Monty Osborne) was mobilized to give them ideological indoctrination on U.S.-type democracy. Even if such indoctrination were given with the people's free will, this kind of POW policy by U.S. Forces made Kojé Island "another battlefield," which was already in the midst of "heated battle." As a result, POW camps on Kojé Island were turning into "test sites for ideological warfare," which was a "scaled down version of the Korean war," between U.S. Forces and the People's Army, as well as between their proxies.

"What On Earth Are the Rightists and Reds?"

On Kojé Island, there were former regular People's Army soldiers; noncommunists who were mobilized into the People's Army against their will; communists or noncommunists who participated in the war as South Korean Volunteers; former Chinese Communist Army soldiers; and civilian refugees and civilian internees. They were detained as POW's, and their number reached as many as 176,000.

Mr. Han Sang-on (78, Kohyon-ni, Sinhyonup), who was released as an anticommunist prisoner in Masan after going through POW Camps 81 and 91 on Kojé Island, testifies why Kojé Island was suddenly overflowing with so many POW's, just like a "gulag archipelago." His testimony follows:

"I became a POW in October 1950 in Pyongyang when U.S. Forces and the ROK army occupied it. I was wearing civilian clothes. I insisted that I was not a communist, but my remarks were useless. The U.S. troops indiscriminately arrested all young people they met, whether they were civilians or not. Therefore, all of them were forced to become POW's for the moment."

With the strategy of U.S. Forces that they would continue a new form of war after detaining many POW's and with People's Army tactics that it would use Kojé Island as the frontline of the rear area, another version of the 38th Parallel was drawn in the POW camps. In fact, most anticommunist prisoners should never have been prisoners. Their status was more like civilian internees rather than POW's. A great number of procommunist POW's, who wanted to return to China and North Korea to meet their families, were classified as "stubborn fanatics of communism." Thus, they were terrified of death for that reason only.

A procommunist POW organization called "The Liberation League" and an anticommunist POW organization called "The Taehan [ROK] Anticommunist Youth League" were coexisting in the POW camps. Bloody fighting in which they killed each other occurred frequently between these two organizations. In the name of "ideology," many people were killed; in later stages, under a bestial idea that "you must die for my survival,"

a number of people were victimized. Some anticommunist prisoners tortured, injured, or killed the procommunist prisoners under the support of U.S. Forces and ROK Army guards. On the other hand, procommunist prisoners injured and killed anticommunist prisoners on many occasions in the name of the popular court. Mr. Cho Yun-ha (68, an anticommunist prisoner) testified to the bloody and tragic fighting between the two sides as follows:

"People in POW Camp No. 83, where I was, were running amok to search for the Reds. If a man was known to be a Communist Party member, they assaulted him until he almost died, shouting "You Red!" He was carried on a litter to the gate and then U.S. Army soldiers took him away. Perhaps he was taken to a field hospital. The Rightists were frantic in searching the Reds while the Reds ran amok to find out the Rightists. He was a victim caught in the middle. I deplore...what on earth are Rightists and the Reds?"

Mr. Pak Chon-u, 63 years old, was imprisoned in a POW camp on Kojé Island and now lives in Taejon after dramatically escaping from the camp. Mr. Pak has a unique interpretation on such discords, and said:

"I was in Camp No. 79. At that time, there was no distinction between procommunist and anticommunist prisoners. Such distinction was simply meaningless. However, I heard later that because of fighting between the prisoners, not a small number of people were killed. This is totally the responsibility of the U.S. Army which was responsible for the management of the camps. Did we fight each other before, claiming that we adhere to communism or capitalism? We only called for "withdrawal of foreign troops and reunification of the North and the South." Such ideologies are all foreigners' ideas. There were not only former regular army soldiers but also many civilian internees in the POW camps. There were even children. The U.S. Army's concept of combat was that "all people within the operational zone are the enemy." Therefore, the U.S. Forces did not pay attention to whether one was engaged in combat action or not. They unconditionally arrested all young people in the operational zone. If they believed that there were People's Army soldiers, they unhesitatingly and indiscriminately bombed them, no matter how many innocent residents were among them."

In actuality, the Geneva Convention in Article 121 stipulates that "even if death or injury of a POW was caused by another POW, the responsibility for this falls on the camp authorities."

Pointing to bullet wounds in his leg and shoulder, he recalled the war disaster, stating: "I have many gifts from the U.S. Army."

He continued: "I went to China when I was five years old, following my father. Knowing that a war had broken out in Korea, I participated in the war as a Chinese army soldier. I became a POW during the combat in Chindong while I was fighting against U.S. troops on the western

front. At that time there was no distinction between the frontline and rear area. Bullets flew from both front and back. Survival was indeed a miracle. I was sent to a camp in Somyon, Pusan and then transferred to the POW camp on Koje Island. Although it was wartime, food, clothes, and shelter were indeed miserable. When I was in the Somyon camp, I saw many people dying from tetanus."

A large-scale bloody clash took place in the POW camp. This resulted from the United States' forceful screening interviews over the POW's and their resistance against it. Although there were several clashes, small and big, between the U.S. forces and the POW's over the past period, these were only limited to their demands for better treatment, including the ration problem. The screening interviews by the U.S. forces, however, were enlarged into a bloody clash against POW's, assuming an aspect of "ideological war" between the U.S. forces' operation that "it has to make one more POW choose capitalism" and their resistance against it. The U.S. forces' screening interviews were carried out on three occasions. First, they classified POW's into several groups based on where they came from; North and South Korean volunteer soldiers; officers; and civilian detainees (noncombatants). According to this classification, they placed them into the POW Camp. Approximately 50,000 POW's classified as civilian detainees were excluded from the list of POW's delivered to North Korea at armistice talks in December 1951. The U.S. forces stressed that they were POW's who had been forcibly drafted into the People's Army, and that they had pledged to give loyalty to South Korea. Some of them who were detained in No. 62 Camp, however, hoped to be repatriated to North Korea.

The April 1952 edition of "The International Red Cross Society Review" published in Geneva wrote: POW's within No. 62 Camp opposed interrogations and participated in a ceremony marking the foundation of the People's Army. It is unreasonable to think that they did not want repatriation.

Therefore, the U.S. forces created doubts about its screening interviews in international communities. Its second screening interview was conducted at No. 62 Camp at 2 a.m. on 18 February 1952. Authorities in charge of the camp imposed a curfew within the No. 62 Camp and conducted a forceful investigation into the POW's to reclassify "their trained communists." When the investigation team led by U.S. military policemen began to interrogate them, they persistently resisted against it with home-made weapons such as sticks and bamboo spears. The U.S. forces fired at them to forcibly crack down their resistance. In this incident, 77 POW's were killed and approximately 140 POW's were wounded. On the other hand, one U.S. soldier was killed and other soldiers were wounded ("1,000 Days of Temporary Capital" published by PUSAN ILBO company, p. 386). One month later, the International Red Cross Society investigated this incident and announced that

"69 Koreans and one U.S. soldier were killed and another 142 Koreans and 23 U.S. soldiers were wounded."

(Fitzgerald), commander of the camp, was replaced by Brigadier General (Dodd). Even after he took office, the U.S. forces continued to classify POW's as noncommunists and communists.

From 16 to 17 March 1952, large-scale clashes between pro-communist POW's and anti-communist POW's took place in the POW camp. The Korea Anti-Communist Youth Corps continued to hold rallies against communism. Anti-communist POW's threw stones at pro-communist POW's. During this time, guard posts on all sides fired at POW's with machine guns. In this incident, approximately 30 pro-communist POW's were either killed or seriously wounded.

Mr. Yun Chong-chol (65, resident of Koje County), who served in the POW camp on Koje Island as a KATUSA [Korean Augmentation To the U.S. Army], stated as follows about what he had witnessed there at that time:

"One day, a rightist prisoner, unable to bear it any longer, attempted to escape from the procommunist camp by crossing double wire entanglements. Then, a communist prisoner guard rushed in and tried to catch him. At the moment he was about to cross the wire entanglement, the communist prisoner guard attempted to block him. At this moment, a guard took aim at the communist prisoner and shot him to death."

On 10 April 1952, a massacre was perpetrated in front of Brigadier General (Dodd). The ROK soldiers, who went into POW Camp No. 95 to pull down the North Korean flag, clashed with the prisoners, the guards on the watch-house fired at the prisoners, and U.S. troops were also mobilized. They fired machine guns at the prisoners who were resisting by throwing stones. In the confrontation between machine guns and stones, 33 POW's were killed and 57 were injured.

This "10 April massacre" was perpetrated by the U.S. troops on the pretext that the POW's shouted slogans, "Long live Kim Il-song and the DPRK" and that they hoisted the North Korean flag. However, this incident is distant from Article No. 16 of the Geneva Convention stipulating that "POW's shall not be subject to unfavorable discriminatory treatment for their views on race, nation, religion and politics, but shall be treated equally."

"Forcible Investigation, Torture, and Massacre Must Be Suspended"

The U.S. forces' treatment of POW's worsened with each passing day. Black U.S. soldiers frequently kicked and knocked the POW's without any reason while watching their work. At that time, Korean prostitutes, who came to Koje Island following the U.S. soldiers, formed a shack village along the river bank from the "MP Bridge," the guard post of the U.S. military police, to Songjong.

Residents in the area said that "U.S. soldiers extorted gold rings and personal belongings from the POW's to spend a night with a prostitute."

The POW's began to stage protest demonstrations with Camp No. 76 as their center, and demanded talks with Commander (Dodd). On 7 May 1952, (Dodd) met with the POW's at the main gate. He was listening to the POW's demand that "cruel acts and extorting money and belongings be suspended." At this very moment, he was pushed inside the camp by POW's who were returning to the camp after throwing away excrement. Thus, (Dodd) became a "prisoner" of the POW's in an instant. The POW's put forward a few demands on the condition of releasing Commander (Dodd).

"First, immediately stop brutal acts, insulting acts, torture, confinement, genocide, and machine-gunning against prisoners. Also, stop using prisoners in toxic gas tests, bacteriological weapon tests, and atomic bomb tests. Guarantee prisoners' human rights and lives based on international laws. Second, abandon the plan for illegal and unreasonable repatriation of prisoners of the Korean People's Army [KPA] and the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] and unconditionally repatriate all of them to their countries. Third, immediately stop the work of examining KPA and CPV prisoners in an attempt to use them as slaves. Fourth, acknowledge the formation of a group of representatives from prisoners and ensure its free activity."

On 10 May, as condition for the release of (Dodd) the U.S. forces admitted through "the (Colson) Memorandum" that numerous prisoners had been killed or injured by the UN forces while promising that there would be no more forcible screening interviews with prisoners."

Following the incident of (Dodd's) abduction by the prisoners, the United States' prestige rapidly dropped overnight. In an effort to recover its disgraceful position forced on by the prisoners, the United States appointed (Portner), who was known as "Bull", as the camp commander and nullified the (Colson) Memorandum. At the same time, the United States sent its 187th airborne regiment to Kojé Island from Japan. One Canadian Army company, one British Army company, a Greek Army unit, and a Turkish Army unit were also sent to the island. The United States also reinforced a tank unit on the island.

In accordance with the instruction of General Clark, the commander of the UN forces, (Portner) moved into the camp, armed military troops, and removed North Korean and Chinese Communist flags from the camp. He ordered the military troops to shoot to death all prisoners hoisting communist flags in the camp. On 2 June, one U.S. Army company moved into the CPV prisoners' camp under the escort of two tanks and burned Chinese communist flags. On 4 June, tanks and U.S. troops were moved into the 60th, 85th, and 96th camps and removed communist flags. After a prior

attacking exercise for several days, (Portner) launched an overall attack on the 76th camp on 10 June, the D-day.

A REUTERS correspondent, who witnessed this operation, writes:

"Tanks armed with flame projectors moved into the camp, breaking through its wire entanglement wall. U.S. troops launched operations, throwing teargas bombs and handgrenades. They took prisoners out of their barracks and trenches."

Yun Chong-chol, 65, residing in Kojé island, who witnessed the U.S. troops' actions in the camp, recalls:

"After Camp Commander (Dodd) was released, the U.S. forces moved into the camp with the 64th Tank Battalion of the 3d Division and one parachute battalion armed with rifles. In the camp, these troops built new buildings and started moving prisoners from the housing. In the operations, the U.S. troops moved a tank unit into the camp. The tank unit entered the camp, breaking through the wire entanglements. After that, infantry men and parachute troops broke into the camp, firing tear-gas bombs. At that time, many prisoners fell down and suffered injuries because the camp was filled with tear-gas smoke. Of course many resisted against the U.S. troops' operations. The U.S. troops beat resisting prisoners with the butt of their rifles and kicked them down. They shot to death those prisoners resisting to the end. After the operations ended, prisoners, all stripped of their clothes, were taken on trucks and forced to be housed in respective camps."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS reported that 41 POW's were dead, 279 others were injured, and one U.S. soldier was also dead.

The U.S. soldiers perpetrated similar bloody incidents not only at the Kojé Island POW camp but also at POW camps on Yongcho and Pongam Islands, near Kojé Island. And 51 Chinese POW's were killed and approximately 90 others were injured in the POW camp on Cheju Island.

Will the 25 June War of Kojé Island Continue?

The U.S. soldiers left the island as the armistice agreement had been signed in July 1953 and the POW's had been repatriated. Mr. Yu Sang-on described the end of the Kojé Island POW camp by saying: "The U.S. soldiers did not come and go at the consent of the residents of Kojé Island. They departed with everything they wanted, leaving only waste behind. They came when they wanted to and left when they wanted to."

Mr. Yi In-mo, a former People's Army war correspondent, is now living in Kimhae. He was detained for a long time because he had refused to change his ideological allegiances. His repatriation to North Korea was mentioned at recent North-South high-level talks. At that time, Yi Tong-pok, the South side's spokesman, said: "Mr. Yi is not a POW. Therefore, we cannot repatriate

him." Does the 25 June war of Kojé Island still continue? Concerning this issue, the armistice agreement writes:

"All South Korean (or North Korean) civilians who, as of 24 June 1953, are living in North Korea (or South Korea) against their will shall, if they desire to return to South Korea (or North Korea), be permitted and assisted by the supreme commander of the [North] Korean People's Army (or commander in chief of the United Nations Command)." (A clause on repatriation of displaced civilians, Paragraph 59, Article 3, Armistice Agreement)

Kojé Island, in which, as Mr. Yu Sang-on describes, "civilian houses were gone and only military barracks remained amid weeds," was rebuilt by the Kojé islanders' blood and sweat. Only the roofs of the barracks were rebuilt. The remaining walls recall the painful memories of the period. Former pro-South Korean POW's have reportedly decided to preserve the remains of the camp as a facility for education on the tragedy of the war. The remains must be turned into a facility where people pray that the tragedy in which POW's were victimized by the U.S. soldiers' bullets and ideological conflicts will not be repeated and as a facility for education on reunification.

Cheney: U.S. Did Not Influence Plane Selection

SK1205140693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0926 GMT
12 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—The U.S. Government did not intervene in South Korea's selection process of its new generation combat fighters, and the choice was apparently based purely on merit, former U.S. Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney said Wednesday [12 May]. The Seoul-Washington agreement in 1991 to relocate American bases to outside Seoul by 1997 was a controversy from the time of the decision, which was expedited by bilateral wishes to prevent friction over U.S. military presence, Cheney said.

Cheney was the defense secretary when both of the above decisions were made. They are now stirring controversy with South Korean and U.S. officials suspected of commission payments and heavy lobbying in getting the Seoul to change its selection from F/A-18 to F-16. The government is reconsidering the entire plan for relocating the U.S. military bases in Yongsan, raising questions about the cost that South Korea has to bear in full.

Emphasizing that South Korea was responsible for its decision on choosing its combat fighters, Cheney said, I have not seen anything to lead me to believe that the decision was made on any basis other than merit. The former defense secretary came to Seoul as member of a touring delegation from the American Enterprise Institute (AEI), a private policy research organization.

Asked about renewing questions over U.S. military relocation, Cheney commented that it was a controversy when we did it. James Lilley, former ambassador to

South Korea who also came as member of the AEI delegation, declined to speculate on possible outcome of the upcoming North Korea-U.S. high-level meeting.

Lilley, who was present at the last such high-level meeting in New York in January last year, said Washington made clear to Pyongyang at the time that their relations will improve if North Korea accepts inter-Korean simultaneous nuclear inspection. Now the United States is making a concession to North Koreans to reiterate that there must be reassurances in that they (North Koreans) are not engaging in a nuclear weapons program. Cheney, recalling the pool of information on North Korea's nuclear program, said it was clear that Pyongyang had plans that could lead to the production of nuclear weapons.

Fishing Moratorium To Be Negotiated With Russia

SK1305064293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0529 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—Russia has accepted multilateral negotiations on fishing quotas in the Okhotsk Sea at which Seoul and Moscow are likely to agree on a new moratorium, Foreign Ministry officials said Thursday. The meeting, to take place late this month in Moscow, will be preceded by bilateral Korea-Russia talks, the officials said.

The Russian Parliament adopted a resolution last month banning all fishing in the Okhotsk Sea until an acceptable agreement among the fishing countries—Korea, Japan, China and Poland. Moscow, claiming ecological disaster, said it was closing the fishing zone until such an agreement.

Seoul concluded a fisheries agreement with Moscow for 150,000 tons of pollack for this year, but the pact was virtually nulled when the two sides disagreed on fishing fees as the Russian side was demanding about 100 U.S. dollars more per ton. Officials here hope that Russia will agree to setting a new moratorium on pollack fishing at the Moscow meeting.

KAL, Western Firms Join in F-5 Upgrade Program

SK1305085793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0728 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—Korean Air [KAL] will join hands with Bristol Aerospace, a leading F-5 manufacturer and a Canadian subsidiary of Rolls Royce Plc., in an international modification and upgrading program for F-5 fighters, KAL announced Thursday. KAL Vice Chairman Cho Chun-kun and Rolls-Royce chairman Ralph Robins were present at the signing of the agreement Thursday in Seoul, which a spokesman said was expected to be "one of the most cost effective projects jointly undertaken in this field."

"This is the beginning of a relationship between two countries... and it will definitely be a giant step for the Korean aerospace industry to participate in these fighter life extension and upgrade programs," Cho said. KAL and Bristol will work together to upgrade F-5 fighters in service and improve operational readiness and flight safety, which they estimate to cost several billion U.S. dollars over the next decade.

First developed during the Cold War, more than 2,000 F-5 fighters are being used in 30 countries, the spokesman said. KAL, which builds F-5E/FS for the Korean Air Force, also supplies aircraft components to world aerospace companies like Boeing, Airbus, and McDonnell Douglas, and has been manufacturing UH-60 Black Hawk Helicopters under license from Sikorsky since 1990.

Bristol, supported as the main industrial center for the Canadian F-5 aircraft in January 1987 by the Ottawa government, devotes itself to avionics development and fighter life extension. Major F-5 users are Canada, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Navy, Spain, Norway, and Singapore.

Ministry Announces Planned Visits of Leaders

*SK1105032493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0154 GMT
11 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam, who just had a summit meeting with New Zealand Prime Minister James Bolger, will hold similar meetings with the leaders of Vietnam, the Philippines and Malaysia this month to discuss political and economic cooperation with the Southeast Asian nations.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu told the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and National Unification Committee Tuesday that Kim will meet those leaders when Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet visits Seoul May 13-16, Philippine President Fidel Ramos, May 23-26, and Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, May 23-25.

These foreign leaders will be followed by President Alberto Fujimori of Peru, June 2-4, and Prime Minister Paul Keating of Australia, June 20-23, according to Han.

Kim plans to discuss with Fujimori Korean business advancement into Latin America in the wake of the conclusion of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). They will also discuss economic cooperation and trade between their countries.

With the exception of Fujimori, officials note that all the scheduled visitors are from Southeast Asia. Kim's meetings with them, therefore, are expected to provide a turning point for strengthening of security ties in the area as well as bilateral relations with these countries, observers said.

Seoul To Provide Support for Overseas Koreans

*SK1205072893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0647 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam's office has decided to create a post within the presidential secretariat to provide Koreans living in foreign countries with legal and systematic support. Presidential spokesman Yi Kyong-chae said Wednesday the official in charge of the affairs of Korean immigrants in foreign countries will work closely with consular officials of the Foreign Ministry and other governmental agencies in formulating various support policies for Koreans overseas.

In a related development, Deputy Prime Minister Han Wan-sang said the National Unification Board [NUB] is pushing a plan to post an official in the United Nations mission, Tokyo, Beijing and other important areas in order to help form an international cooperative system to tackle problems related to unification of the country. Han disclosed the plan in his report to the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs and National Unification Committee Wednesday.

As part of the government's measures on inter-Korean economic cooperation following solution of the North Korean nuclear issue, Han said the NUB will also promote plans in stages for exchanges of investment missions with the North for feasibility studies and small-scale joint ventures in light industry. The NUB plans to talk with North Korea for the formation of a unified team for the 1994 Asian Games in Hiroshima, Japan, exchanges of cultural and artistic delegations on commemorative occasions and national festive days, Han said. The NUB will also promote plans for exchanges of tourists of South and North Korea as well as allowing foreign visitors to visit both sides of the Demilitarized Zone, Han said.

Foreign Contractors May Enter Construction Market

*SK1105032993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0258 GMT
11 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—Foreign contractors will be licensed to do business in Korea as early as next year if they set up wholly self-invested companies here, the Construction Ministry said Tuesday.

General and specialized construction companies would be issued licenses from next year and 1996, respectively, the ministry said in a report to the National Assembly.

General and specialized contractors will also be able to set up branches in Korea from 1996 and 1998, respectively, as a part of widening market access to foreign industry, the ministry said.

Foreign architects will be permitted work on projects jointly with Korean architects from 1996.

Foreign contractors' participation in public tenders will be limited to general construction projects that cost 5 billion won or more.

Officials React to 12 Dec 1979 'Army Affair'

Presidential Office: Affair Was Coup

SK1305080193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam's office has defined the Dec. 12, 1979, Army affair as an incident having the nature of military coup d'etat in which lower ranking military officers revolted against their seniors, presidential spokesman Yi Kyong-chae said Thursday. Reiterating Kim's view, Yi said President Kim was one of the most serious victims of the incident.

Following the assassination of President Pak Chong-hui, a group of young Army officers led by Gen. Chon Tu-hwan and Gen. No Tae-u staged a revolt against senior Army officers that eventually enabled Chon to grab power and become president of the country. Because of such an unfortunate historical incident, the people of this country came through a long passage of suffering until a civilian government was established on Feb. 25, Yi said.

We have just begun to settle accounts of that unfortunate history, Yi said. What we have to do now is to correct the distorted history. Yi said that the current reform and changes being undertaken by the administration were precisely the work to that end.

Yi expressed regret at the wrong remarks made recently by Prime Minister Hwang In-song on the legitimacy of the Dec. 12 incident. Speaking at the National Assembly, Hwang had said he believed that the Dec. 12 incident was not illegal.

Reaction to Kim's Definition 'Mixed'

SK1305083293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0723 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam's definitive characterization of the Dec. 12, 1979 affair as "a coup-like incident" Thursday drew a mixed reaction from political parties. The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], through spokesman Kang Chae-sop, welcomed the statement as containing "a considerably progressive element."

The DLP urged the main opposition Democratic Party and others to stop their unproductive political disputes on the legality of the Dec. 12 incident. Nevertheless, party members were by no means unanimous in their reaction to the president's pronouncement, reflecting the makeup of the ruling party, which still retains politicians who wielded power and influence during the two successive governments of Presidents Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u.

The Democratic Party [DP], meanwhile, said that it would accept the Chongwadae statement, but raised its voice an octave higher in demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Hwang In-song, who had said the coup-like incident was not illegal. In the ruling party, party members from Kim's reunification Democratic Party faction understandably welcomed the statement, describing it as "hot and decisive." They had been on the opposite side of the Army group that seized power.

But other members, most of whom belong to No's Democratic Justice Party faction, were lukewarm in their reaction with some of them saying, "It is an evaluation of history by those who are now creating history." They include some of the main players in the Dec. 12 incident or those embraced by the Army group led by Chon.

DLP Executive Chairman Kim Chong-pil, who was cold shouldered by Chon and his followers in the so-called Fifth Republic, accepts the president's definition but is said to be wary as it could be extended to the May 16, 1961, coup d'etat by Gen. Pak Chong-hui in which Kim Chong-pil, then a retired lieutenant colonel, took active part. Back at the Democratic Party, some members were dissatisfied by the president's expression as it stopped short of calling the incident an outright military coup d'etat. In any case, they said they believe the statement defined the incident as coup d'etat in a roundabout way. Accordingly, DP chairman Yi Ki-taek, through party spokesman Pak Chi-won, issued a statement accepting the president's statement.

Since Kim defined the Dec. 12 incident as a coup d'etat, the party said, the president had to require the resignation of Prime Minister Hwang In-song. The party demanded that the government clear up all the facts of the incident and take legal action against those responsible for the coup.

Many observers believe that the Democratic Party, which has lost the political initiative completely to President Kim and the ruling party since his administration was launched Feb. 25, seized the opportunity to make political hay out of Hwang's "misstatement" on the 14-year-old incident. In any event, the Democratic Party said it would table a motion demanding Hwang's resignation at the National Assembly on Friday, if President Kim did not do so on Thursday.

Sources at Chongwadae said, however, the resignation of Hwang was not likely to occur, although presidential spokesman Yi Kyong-chae, in announcing Thursday's statement, clearly said it was a mistake on the prime minister's part to say the Dec. 12 incident was not illegal. The Democratic Party demands that since Kim had made an unequivocal statement on the incident, the president should handle his personnel management and his reform policy accordingly.

Thursday's Chongwadae statement, in other words, should be followed by fact-finding of the Dec. 12 incident, public hearings on it, legal action against the coup

plotters, it said. "If these followup actions are not going to be taken, the president's statement was nothing but a political expression," the party spokesman said.

Former General To Sue Ex-President

SK1205042593 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 May 93 p 3

[Text] A former Army general, who opposed the young military elite's taking of power 13 years ago, said yesterday that he will sue former President Chon Tu-hwan and three other retired generals for masterminding military insurrection. "Chon and his followers, by leading a military coup, violated the military laws which prohibit treason and mutiny," claimed Chang Tae-wan, former chief of the Capital Defense Command.

Chang was referring to what is here popularly called the "Dec. 12 incident," in which Chon and his military loyalists suppressed their opponents to sweep into the power vacuum left by the assassination of President Pak Chong-hui. On Dec. 12, 1979, military elite led by then Defense Security command chief Chon, arrested Army Gen. Chong Sung-hwa and others who stood in their way.

The controversial maneuver, which was made without permission from then President Choe Kyu-ha, was not actively debated during the rules of Chon and President No Tae-u. With a new civilian government installed, Chang said, it is time for the nation to judge whether the Dec. 12 incident was legal or not.

Chang, who was arrested and forced to leave the Army after trying in vain to stop what he called a unconstitutional military coup, said that he will consult with Chong Sung-hwa to lodge a joint suit against Chon and three others—retired generals Yu Hak-song, Hwang Yong-si and Cha Kyu-hun. Chang's remark came after Prime Minister Hwang In-song, himself a retired Army general, made a controversial remark about the Dec. 12 incident.

In a parliamentary hearing Saturday, when asked how the incumbent government assesses the incident, Hwang hinted that he thought it was not an illegal military action. The controversial remark prompted the opposition Democratic Party to demand the prime minister's resignation and challenge President Kim Yong-sam to clarify his position on the issue. A former opposition leader fighting military-backed authoritarian governments until he joined hands with the ruling camp in 1990, Kim Yong-sam used to denounce the Dec. 12 incident as a military coup.

Kim Yong-sam Discusses Kwangju Uprising

SK1305090493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0846 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam on Thursday declared the full restoration of the honor of participants in the Kwangju democratization movement of May 1980. "The Kwangju democratization movement must be justly appraised and

recorded in history," President Kim Yong-sam said in a special statement televised nationwide.

"Kwangju's pain must be cured and its honor must be restored," Kim said in the statement. "The blood that Kwangju shed in May 1980 became the fertilizer for Korean democracy," he said. "Speaking clearly, our government of today is a democratic government standing on the extension of the Kwangju democratization movement. "We have set up a civilian government on the strength of the democratic movement in May 1980 and the protest movement in June 1987," he said.

He promised to fully support projects to commemorate the spirit of the Kwangju movement and honor it. He said he hoped to see Kwangju city and its citizens establish a commemorative day for the entire population to observe. To honor the uprising, he said, the Mangwol-tong cemetery would be made "sacred" and the South Cholla provincial government would be relocated to make way for a memorial park with a monument.

Touching on the question of delving into the truth of the protests and their bloody suppression by the Army, and punishing those responsible, he made it clear that he would not take any particular measures. "(These questions) are intended to make just judgement on the incident by correcting the distorted historical record, not to revive the old confrontation by digging up the shame of the dark days, nor to punish some people," Kim said. "I believe that anything unclear should be left for future historians to clarify. Let's not forget, but let's reconcile anew with tolerance and broad minds."

Dissident organizations are demanding the appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate the uprising and take legal action against those who were responsible for the many deaths of protestors. The opposition Democratic Party calls for forming a special National Assembly committee on the uprising.

Kim promised to offer another opportunity for relatives of the dead, missing and injured not legally compensated to report their cases and receive compensation, and said he would expunge the criminal records of those who had been accused for their participation in the movement. He said he would seriously study allowing part of the Sangmu Military Base on the outskirts of Kwangju to be used as a park, removing the names on the wanted list in connection to the movement and giving those who were fired their jobs back.

The president's special statement would be followed by detailed ministerial measures, government officials said. The government would revive a committee under the leadership of the prime minister to offer compensation for additional victims, they said. It would also lay out 100 billion won (125 million U.S. dollars) to build the memorial park and move the South Cholla provincial government building.

Kim Returns Education Minister's Resignation

SK1305065193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0623 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam returned Education Minister O Pyong-mun's resignation Thursday. O had tendered his resignation to take responsibility for the trouble caused by his ministry's partial disclosure of data on university and college entrance exam scams in a recent announcement.

"It is regrettable that the Education Ministry created trouble and suspicion in the process of making results of the (internal) inspection public," the president said, adding that efforts should be made to find out the truth behind the case. "Minister O and all Education Ministry officials should put forth every ounce of their energies to restore the credibility of the ministry and correct education," Kim said, returning O's resignation. O was said to have handed his resignation to Prime Minister Hwang In-song after a cabinet meeting earlier in the day.

Cho Sang-hun Named New Minister to PRC

SK1305065093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0553 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry appointed Cho Sang-hun, senior coordinator for policy planning II, minister to China on Thursday. Ambassador-at-large Chon Sun-kyu was named director-general for international economic studies at the ministry's Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security.

Police Release 12 Senior Military Officers 10 May

SK1105032793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0254 GMT
11 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—All but one of the 13 senior navy and air force officers recently arrested for their involvement in pay-for-promotion scandals were released late Monday night in accordance with a defense ministry directive. The releases, reportedly decided to soothe boiling criticism inside the military that the purge was missing its target, came after the 12, including nine general grade officers, handed in applications for retirement. The 13th officer, Commodore Yi Yon-kun, remains under arrest for further investigation in connection with the testimony of former chief of naval operations Adm. Kim Chong-ho in prosecution interrogations.

It is thought that Yi, director of personnel from 1898 to 1990, holds the key to irregularities and bank accounts that Kim has told the prosecution about. It seems that the navy and air force had the officers file apply retirement to prevent them from complaining when they were called before in-house disciplinary committees.

Officials Charged With Crimes After Investigation

SK1205140393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0821 GMT
12 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—The prosecution has filed criminal charges against 985 ranking public officials and people in upper social brackets as a result of its investigation of corruption from March 8 to May 10, the Justice Ministry said in a report to the National Assembly on Wednesday [12 May]. It said that 497 were in custody awaiting trial and 488 were booked without physical detention.

It said 330 were charged with grave crimes, which include 64 with irregularities concerning licenses or government permits, 102 with taking or giving kickbacks, 25 with financing-related irregularities, 22 with illegal college entry, 74 with court-related irregularities and 40 with quasi-journalism. The ministry will confiscate illegally acquired assets and punish them with administrative measures in addition to judicial proceedings.

Seoul Posts Trade Deficit With 59 Nations

SK1305032593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0217 GMT
13 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea had trade deficits with 59 countries last year, or 28.4 percent of the 208 that it traded with, officials at the Trade, Industry, and Resources Ministry said Thursday. Of the 59, twenty-five countries posted a surplus of more than 100 million U.S. dollars in trade with Korea, the ministry said.

The total amount of trade deficits recorded in trades with those 59 countries was 22.6 billion dollars, roughly 4.5 times Korea's total trade deficit of 5.1 billion dollars. Five countries had trade surpluses of more than 1 billion dollars with Korea. Japan registered the biggest surplus with 7.85 billion dollars, followed by Saudi Arabia (2.85 billion dollars), Australia (1.99 billion dollars), Oman (1.27 billion dollars) and China (1.07 billion dollars). Next came Germany (866 million dollars), Brazil (632 million dollars), Malaysia (622 million dollars) and Iran (502 million dollars).

Sixteen countries had surpluses of between 100 million dollars and 500 million dollars, including the United Arab Emirates, Italy, Switzerland and France. The reason for Korea's deficits with the United States and members of the European Community was largely its sluggish exports to the countries, the ministry said. The deficit with Japan was attributed to the growth in imports of industrial equipment, parts and materials.

Interest in Foreign Investment Declines in 1993

SK1205033393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0113 GMT
12 May 93

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—Foreign interest in investing in South Korea has fallen off this year, the

Small and Medium Industry Promotion Corp. (SMIPC) said Wednesday. Fourteen foreign companies inquired about investing in Korea through the corporation's center for foreign investment services in January-April, less than a quarter of the inquiries during the same period a year earlier, SMIPC officials said. In the same period last year, 58 foreign companies consulted with the center on investing in Korea.

Five German companies sought information during the four months, 9.6 percent of last year's 52, and one French firm, in comparison to three last year. They said, however, 104 Korean small- and medium-sized companies, up 7 from last year's 97, asked about joint ventures or technical tie-ups with foreign firms during the period.

While no American company asked for investment advice, 25 Korean companies wanted U.S. partners for joint ventures or technical tie-ups, followed by 22 seeking German companies, 20 French and 19 Japanese. SMIPC has difficulty linking Korean companies with suitable foreign partners because Koreans prefer joint investment while foreigners are more interested in technical tie-ups, the officials explained.

Business Groups Move Investment Overseas

*SK1205033293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0102 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Seoul, May 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea's 30 biggest business groups had overseas investments of

2,228.88 million U.S. dollars as of the end of last year, led by the Hyundai group with 421.23 million dollars, the office of bank supervision said Wednesday in a report to the National Assembly. Investment became active in the 1990s and amounted to 1,579.75 million dollars in 1990-92. These three years account for 70.9 percent of total overseas investment by the 30 biggest groups.

Many of the groups moved production abroad on account of high wages at home and trade regulations in advanced countries during the period, the report said. Second was Samsung at 403.12 million dollars, followed by Daewoo at 399.7 million dollars, Lucky-Goldstar at 256.96 million dollars and Sunkyong at 194.38 million dollars. The five accounted for over three-quarters of the total.

Rounding out the top 12 were Sammi (126.33 million dollars), Hanjin (123.95 million dollars), Ssangyong (95.59 million dollars), Halla (52.43 million dollars), Hanil (25.81 million dollars), Hanwha (23.37 million dollars) and Kolon (22.81 million dollars). Top company was Hyundai Motor Co. with 276.41 million dollars followed by Daewoo Corp. (249.26 million dollars), Samsung Electronics Co. (113.07 million dollars), Goldstar Co. (100.89 million dollars), Samsung Co. (99.38 million dollars) and Korean Air (60.94 million dollars).

Burma

Rangoon Radio Reports 11 May Prisoner Release

*BK1305015693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 11 May 93*

[Text] It has been learned that 37 detainees—33 males and four females—against whom action was taken under existing laws and who were serving their sentences, have been released today from Insein central jail and Pakokku, Myitkyina, Pyapon, Bassein, and Ma-ubin jails after the remainder of their sentences were commuted in accordance with declaration No. 11/92 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

Goodwill Mission Leaves for Laos 11 May

*BK1105142293 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 11 May 93*

[Text] At the invitation of the Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a Myanmar [Burmese] goodwill delegation led by Vice Admiral Maung Maung Khin, deputy prime minister, left for Vientiane, LPDR, by special plane at 0800 this morning.

Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin, deputy prime minister, was seen off at the airport by Lieutenant General Tin Tun, deputy prime minister and member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC]; Lt. Gen. Maung Aye, deputy commander in chief of the Defense Services; Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC; Lt. Gen. Tin U, secretary-2 of the SLORC; Lt. Gen. Thein Win, minister of transport; U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs; and Laotian Ambassador Mr. Kideng Thammavong.

It has been learned that Vice Adm. Maung Maung Khin, deputy prime minister, was accompanied by Lt. Gen. Chit Swe, minister of forestry affairs; U Kyaw Aye, deputy minister of religious affairs; U Tin Hlaing, deputy minister of agriculture; and responsible personnel from Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Forestry Affairs, Land Records Department, and Ministry of Livestock Breeding and Fisheries.

Deputy Minister, Delegation Leave for PRC

*BK1305033093 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 12 May 93*

[Text] A four-member information, movies, and television delegation led by U Soe Nyunt, deputy minister of information of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], left Yangon [Rangoon] for the PRC by a CAAC [Civil Aviation Administration of China] plane at the invitation of the PRC's Ministry of Broadcasting, Movies, and Television.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at the airport by Brigadier General Myo Thant, minister of information; Colonel Than Zin, deputy minister of health; Mr. Liang

Feng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar, and PRC Embassy officials; U Than Maung, managing director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise; Col. Aung Naing, managing director of the Printing and Publications Enterprise; U Kyi Lwin, director general of the Myanmar Television and Broadcasting Department; U Win Sein, director general of the Department of Information and Public Relations, and responsible officials; head of the Department of Information and responsible officials; responsible officials from the Myanmar Motion Picture Organization and the Myanmar Music Organization; and their friends and relatives.

Members of the delegation include: U Tin Pe, managing director of the Motion Picture Industry; U Phone Myint, director of movies of the Myanmar Television and Broadcasting Department; U Ohn Gyaw, accordion player and chairman of the Myanmar Music Organization; and U Nyunt Win, actor.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Air Force To Assist Cambodian Election

*BK1205140993 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES
in English 12 May 93 p 1*

[By Sufi Yusoff]

[Excerpt] Kuala Lumpur, Mon.—The Royal Malaysian Air Force [RMAF] will deploy eight Nuri helicopters and a crew of 24 to Cambodia to ferry electoral officers and ballot boxes in the May 23-27 general election.

Sources said today the RMAF aircraft and men from its bases here, Kuching and Butterworth would serve under the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

It is learnt that the RMAF had opted for the Nuri medium-lift helicopter because of its range and utility as a transport and evacuation aircraft.

The RMAF crew would be briefed on their mission prior to their departure on Friday from the RMAF Butterworth base.

Sources said the helicopters would make several stopovers in Thailand on their way to the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh.

They added that the UN had enlisted RMAF's assistance as the Russian helicopters were grounded because of technical problems.

The UN also has a fleet of French Air Force Super Puma helicopters.

Malaysia has 200 civilian, 900 military officers and other ranks, and 224 policemen serving under the 22,000-strong UNTAC. Most of the soldiers are from the 1st Royal Rangers Battalion.

The sources said the helicopter unit would be posted for a minimum of three weeks and a maximum of two months.

They said this deployment may be extended if the need arises.

To ensure their self-defence, the helicopter crew would be provided with light arms while the aircraft's armour would be reinforced as a protection against small-arms fire.

In Lumut, Armed Forces Chief Jen [General] Datuk Sri Abdul Rahman Abdul Hamid confirmed that the RMAF helicopters would be used in the Cambodian elections.

"We are liaising closely with the Field Development Office at the United Nations headquarters in New York on their deployment," he told newsmen after inspecting a guard-of-honour by 1,300 officers and other ranks at the naval base here.

Abdul Rahman who is on a two-day visit to the naval base declined to confirm the number of helicopters to be sent. [passage omitted]

Commentary Hails Velayati Stopover

BK1205142393 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 12 May 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Iranian foreign minister, Mr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, was in Malaysia at the end of last week on a two-day official visit while on his way to Bali, Indonesia, for the Non-Aligned Ministerial Conference. Mr. Velayati's visit to Malaysia underscores the [word indistinct] of closer relations between the two countries.

Hardly a month ago, the Malaysian prime minister, Dr. Mahathir Mohamed paid an official visit to Iran. He was accompanied by a team of senior officials and business leaders. Dr. Mahathir has always stressed the vital importance of follow-up action. The brief stopover of Mr. Velayati afforded another good opportunity for discussions.

Understanding has been reached on the next step in the economic and trade relationship between Iran and Malaysia. (?Hopefully), a high-level delegation from Iran will arrive in Malaysia in the near future. Secondly, a memorandum of understanding and three trade agreements will be signed. The memorandum relates to Malaysia's decision to extend a credit facility valued at U.S. \$50 million. This generous undertaking by Malaysia reflects the country's policy of expanding trade and economic ties with all countries.

In the case of Iran, there are also (?enduring) contra activities and the strong Islamic groups. Iran will soon make available a palm oil bulking facility at Iranian port. This will have a capacity for storage amounting to 100,000 tonnes of palm oil. The commodity is an important Malaysian export.

From the Iranian port, which will be identified soon, Malaysian exporters will be able to reach new markets such as the central Asian republics. All these can be viewed as positive developments in the south-south cooperation process. To quote the Malaysian prime minister, the two countries have an important role to play in the Muslim world and in other world bodies.

Malaysia's relations with Iran are based on the principles of mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of the other country. Both countries are committed to the reduction of dependence on colonial-type economic arrangements. Iran was not under colonial domination but its oil industry for some decades was exploited by strong multinational firms. Today, the peoples from Malaysia and Iran are using the abundant natural resources including oil and natural gas for rapid economic and social developments. Both nations also believe in balanced development whereby due regard is paid to the spiritual and ethnic dimensions.

The Malaysian community looks forward to the arrival of the next Iranian delegation. (?Both of them) will set the pace under agreements or other (?dimensions). It will also mark the opening of a new chapter in [word indistinct] history of Malaysia's (?harmonic) ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Indonesian Conglomerate Sets Up Operations

BK1105145993 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 10 May 93 p 16

[By Sabri Said]

[Text] The Dharmala Group, an Indonesian conglomerate with an extensive network covering the Asian region, is setting up operations in Malaysia.

The group will initially make its foray into the country by trading in industrial chemical products.

It holds the marketing and distribution rights for several internationally renowned industrial chemical producers.

Dharmala's entry into Malaysia will be spearheaded by its international division, Hong Kong-based DMT Corporation SA.

"We will start with trading, but the plan is to later expand into both downstream and upstream activities in industrial chemicals.

"We are coming in next year," DMT Corporation Managing Director Bernard Pouliot said in Manila last week.

The Dharmala Group's activities are divided into six divisions, namely agro-manufacturing, financial services, property, consumer, electronics, and the international division.

All its divisional holding companies except the international division are listed on the Jakarta Stock Exchange.

Last year, Dharmala—among the top 10 largest groups in Indonesia—recorded a turnover of U.S. \$800 million (about RM [Malaysian ringgit] 2 billion).

The group has regional offices in the Philippines, China, Taiwan, Singapore, and Thailand.

Pouliot, who was in Manila recently to attend the ASEAN Institute meeting between entrepreneurs from Malaysia and the Philippines, said Dharmala had major plans for Malaysia.

Pouliot said the group had been eyeing the Malaysian market for some time, driven by Malaysia's industrialisation push, is booming and Dharmala intends to get a share of the cake. [sentence as published]

It is understood that Pouliot and Dharmala Group President Suyanto Gondokusuma had mentioned the Group's proposal to Finance Minister Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim, who addressed the ASEAN Institute meeting.

Pouliot said Dharmala ultimately intended to create an "industrial chemical supermarket" offering a broad range of products under one roof.

"We are working towards setting up this supermarket in new areas that the company is moving into. For example, Vietnam may be the first.

"We will be visiting the country next week to study the market potential."

This type of supermarket is very rare in this region, but Dharmala is confident of the idea based on the booming economic growth of the East Asian region.

Pouliot said one obstacle right now is the limitation of Dharmala's distribution rights of the various industrial chemicals to just certain countries in the region.

According to him, this was why Dharmala intended to go into downstream and upstream activities to allow the realisation of the chemical supermarket.

Singapore

Ministry Denies Country Haven for Piracy

BK1305021093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0107 GMT
13 May 93

[By Leu Siew Ying]

[Text] SINGAPORE, May 13 (AFP)—Singapore's law ministry denied Thursday the country was becoming a

regional centre for computer software piracy and advocated using civil suits to deal with intellectual property rights (IPR) infringers.

The ministry said there was no "credible evidence" to support allegations by the U.S.-based Business Software Alliance [BSA] last month that Singapore was turning into a regional distribution centre for software pirates.

In a written response to queries by AFP, the ministry said the government had always assisted in issues concerning IPR violations. "It is, however, not possible to eradicate IPR infringements completely," it said.

In April, the United States accused Singapore of failing to respond to a request made one year earlier for the government to prosecute criminally IPR infringers to weed out software piracy.

U.S. sources were baffled by Singapore's reluctance to act, because officials at all levels had repeatedly pledged to take criminal action against the pirates as early as last summer.

The ministry, in its statement, said most countries appeared to follow the practice of having companies deal with infringements through civil actions.

The practice "appears to work well in general and Singapore has followed this route, combining it with criminal prosecutions through the issue of fiats," the ministry said. Fiats are authorisations issued by the attorney-general to private companies to institute criminal proceedings on his behalf.

The ministry said that last year fiats were issued for 72 prosecutions related to items ranging from audio and visual recordings and computer software to clothing and toys. It was unable to give a breakdown for prosecutions on software violations.

U.S. software companies Lotus Development Corp. and Novell, Inc. said last week they had obtained authorisation to prosecute criminally two Singaporean distributors for infringing their copyrights.

A U.S. source here said Washington had never suggested the Singapore government should carry the whole burden of prosecuting IPR infringers.

"We agree that the private sector should carry the majority of the burden. They are carrying the burden, but it is not working" in the case of software pirates, the source said. Software companies have not yet succeeded in having anyone sentenced to jail, he said.

Unlike in audio piracy, where civil actions have been successful, the mark-ups for copied software are so high that it is lucrative for infringers to continue in the business after paying damages and fines, he said.

"The people in the country respond to government action. Wholesale piracy will drop significantly if the government takes action," he said.

Alban Kang, BSA's legal representative in Singapore, said in April software piracy was a serious problem in Singapore because infringers had become so sophisticated they were beating legitimate companies at product launches.

But the ministry quoted Eric Smith, executive director and general counsel of the International Intellectual Property Alliance, as saying in a local newspaper in January, "Singapore is a classic example of how a country has successfully cracked down on intellectual property violations."

Cambodia

Son Sann To Withdraw if Violence Continues

BK1305022093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, said in Phnom Penh on 11 May that his party would withdraw from the elections if the political violence continues throughout Cambodia. His Excellency Son Sann asked how his party could participate in the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia]-organized elections in a situation in which there was no neutral political atmosphere and no security.

Hun Sen Urges Patience From Australia, Japan

OW1305095093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0921 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Sydney, May 13 KYODO—Hun Sen, prime minister of Cambodia's Phnom Penh government, issued an appeal to Australia and Japan to keep their peacekeeping troops in Cambodia in an interview aired Thursday on Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio.

In the interview recorded last week in Cambodia, Hun Sen said if Australia or Japan withdrew their troops when one of their soldiers was killed, they and the international community would suffer a "loss of confidence and credibility."

"Therefore, I think you should be more patient and you should not make any statement that would put the Cambodian people in a disappointing situation, and also that would encourage the Khmer Rouge (faction) to misbehave more," he said.

He made the comments before a Japanese policeman was shot dead in an ambush May 4.

Hun Sen said, "What we call the Evans Plan is not 100 percent successful, but it is not a failure either." He was referring to the plan initiated by Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans that was the basis of United Nations peacekeeping operations in Cambodia.

An Australian Government spokesman told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that Evans has been careful not to give the impression that Australia would consider removing its troops.

Prime Minister Paul Keating announced in Parliament that Australian soldiers would remain in Cambodia until at least August.

Hun Sen Speaks to O Reang Euv Voters 9 May

BK1105155193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 9 May 93

[Speech by Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, at a rally in O Reang Euv District of Kompong Cham Province on 9 May—recorded]

[Text] Today I am very happy to be able to come back to O Reang Euv District where I have had countless number of pleasant and painful souvenirs. [passage indistinct] However, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the clergy and compatriots for giving constant love, confidence, and compassion to me as well as support to the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the State of Cambodia [SOC] Government over the past more than 14 years. [Words indistinct] the CPP, the SOC Government, and myself to achieve the historic mission of (?toppling) the genocidal Pol Pot regime to protect the people's lives, preventing the regime's return for more than 14 years, making our motherland [words indistinct] prosperous, conducting negotiations in order to reach a peaceful solution, and finally achieving the Paris accord. Without your support, I was certainly unable to accomplish that historic task on behalf of the party and government.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to convey to the clergy, grandfathers, grandmothers, and compatriots the deepest respectful appreciation from His Excellency Heng Samrin and Chea Sim, (?the leaders) of the CPP and the SOC Government. And I, myself, would also like to express my best wishes to all of you on this new year. May the new year bring you longevity, high social standing, happiness, zealous physical strength, and enlightenment. [applause]

Revered clergy, beloved compatriots. Today, we are inaugurating another new achievement. Although the road has not been completely restored and needs further repair and maintenance, [words indistinct]. [passage indistinct] I have sent my envoy, Trade Minister Nhim Vanda, here to speed up the restoration in order to allow our people to use the road in the near future. However, I would like to make it clear to the clergy and compatriots that what we have done is not for the purpose (?of winning elections). We have to undertake our tasks regardless of whether the polls will take place or not. We have done our work for more than 14 years; we have never waited for the elections.

Other political parties have promised that if they won, they would do this or that. [passage indistinct] If those parties are capable, they have to begin their work straightaway. They do not need to wait until after they win the elections. Somehow, what they have done is nothing different from a doctor telling a sick person: I will give you an injection after I win the elections. What will happen if the patient dies before he wins? [passage indistinct]

Without the elections but with the CPP, the clergy has survived and restored monasteries, our children and youngsters have been able to go to schools [words indistinct] since the 7 January liberation day. I always remember the compatriots in O Reang Euv District. [passage indistinct] Some grandparents, uncles, and aunties just told me that they have only seen me on television and my photos and listened to my voice on radio [words indistinct]. [chuckles] Thank you very much. This gesture does not only constitute support for the party and government, but also a love for myself [words indistinct].

Only a few days are left before the elections are held. Today is 9 May, so the election campaign will come to an end in nine days and the polls will begin in two weeks. Twenty political parties will contest the upcoming elections. Many youths and compatriots wrote to or personally asked me: Why has Mr. Hun Sen allowed various political parties (?to participate and use the radio in the search for peace)? I have answered that that is democracy. The election campaign should be conducted using radio and organizing rallies. Yesterday, a party held a meeting at the O Reang Euv district market [passage indistinct]. They are entitled to launch propaganda. And since the beginning of the campaigning, they have also opened their party offices, put up photographs on trees, and so on. That is their right. Along with this, they (?have also used) our radio and television.

By all accounts, among the 20 political parties, only the CPP has risen up and joined the Cambodian people to struggle to topple a (?barbarous) regime. Remember, there was no other party. The other parties' leaders were living in (?jungle). None of them dared rise up, except for the CPP. This is the first point we should have seen. And the second point is that no party, except the CPP, has blocked the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime for 14 years. The only thing the other parties have done is to put all the blame on us. They claim that our 14-year prevention of the Polpotists has caused the Polpotist gang and its allies to make war against (?the people). We are accused of wrongdoing since we do not want to allow the genocidal regime to come back and since we have used all available means to block its return. If they refused to resist, what should we do then? Let the (?Vietnamese) troops stay forever? No. It is impossible. So we should have the courage to confront the Polpotists with our own forces in order to allow (?the Vietnamese troops to withdraw). Should the Polpotists be allowed to

reinstall their regime (?after the Vietnamese withdrawal)? No. The people could never accept the return of that regime.

They accused us of (?recruiting troops) while they boasted that the Polpotists and FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] group and (?Mr. Son Sann's group), the Khmer Rouge allies, have forced people in refugee camps [words indistinct] with the aim of reinstating the genocidal regime. [passage indistinct] So we are duty-bound to take all possible measures to deter the return of the Polpotist gang. Only the CPP has been pursuing the task of blocking the comeback of the Polpotist gang.

And the third point is that no party has joined us to rebuild the country from empty hands. We should clearly see that. [passage indistinct] After coming back, some people had plates, but no cooking pots; some had cooking pots without lids; some had only spoons; some had carts without buffaloes; and some had bicycles [words indistinct]. No party has joined us to build our regime over the past 14 years. So the compatriots are urged to meticulously weigh up this third point.

There is another point concerning the negotiations with His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The Khmer Rouge and their ally and Mr. Son Sann opposed the peace talks and called them the Sihanouk-Hun Sen forum between his highness and Phnom Penh. The samdech [prince] and I, however, persistently continued to talk. [passage indistinct] This is what we should have seen.

Other political parties are now intensifying their propaganda. This is their own right. However, I want to ask whether our compatriots are confident of placing their fate with the political parties or political personages who have denied to acknowledge the reality of (?Cambodia's history). [passage indistinct] They pretend to ignore the group of people who inflamed the provocation in Cambodia in 1970 [words indistinct]. They (?deliberately) forget those people. They never utter a single word about the genocidal Pol Pot regime. It is absolutely certain that they are aware of the massacre because several members of their families were also killed by the Polpotists. But they have the intention of ignoring the massacre. They also realize that over the past 14 years Pol Pot and his allies have yearned for a return and that we have pursued our struggle to prevent it. They certainly know what has happened, but they intend to ignore it because Phnom Penh is their main contender for votes. They have to (?deal with) Phnom Penh. This is why they only find fault with Phnom Penh and bad mouth Phnom Penh. They never decry the offenses committed by Mr. Lon Nol, Pol Pot, and the Khmer Rouge allies. That being the case, can we be confident of placing our fate with those political leaders who are afraid to deal with reality? [passage indistinct] Compatriots, please carefully weigh up this matter.

The CPP is the only party that dares to face reality. When something is wrong we say it is wrong, and when something is right we say it is right. This is our stance. Some political parties, specifically the Khmer Rouge allies, have never dared to talk about reality. I want the compatriots all over the country to judge the propaganda conducted and deeds committed by various political parties, especially the Khmer Rouge allies. [passage indistinct] If they do not want to recognize past reality, it is fine, but they have to have the courage to accept the present reality, in any case. [passage indistinct]

Scores of innocent civilian people were killed in Siem Reap Province. A few days ago in Moung Russei District, the Khmer Rouge blew up a passenger train [words indistinct]. The Khmer Rouge have launched attacks (?in Siem Reap), Kompong Thom, and some other areas. But other political parties have kept mum, saying nothing about those attacks. So compatriots, please take that attitude into consideration.

They talk about democracy, they talk about human rights, they talk about freedom, but they ignore the Khmer Rouge's massacre of our people. [passage indistinct] The Khmer Rouge and FUNCINPEC have also joined forces to perpetrate acts of terrorism and armed robberies in many areas, including Phnom Penh. [passage indistinct] When the Khmer Rouge killed UNTAC personnel, Vietnamese nationals, and the Cambodian people [words indistinct], only the CPP has condemned them and (?dispatched) troops to counterattack in order to protect the people. [passage indistinct]

I will not prolong my speech so as to allow General (Kim Hang) to say something. Please welcome Gen. (Kim Hang). Gen. (Kim Hang) was the FUNCINPEC construction committee vice chairman. [passage indistinct] He has made a political decision to rally to the CPP because of FUNCINPEC's (?base) actions and alliance with the Khmer Rouge. [passage indistinct] Gen. (Kim Hang), who is well known for his integrity, has decided to cut loose from FUNCINPEC (?because he can no longer remain patient with the party). [passage indistinct] In recent months, scores of our people were killed by the Khmer Rouge and FUNCINPEC. And yesterday afternoon, we broadcast the confession by a FUNCINPEC terrorist leader who is a lieutenant colonel. Also we cooperated with UNTAC in arresting criminals in a FUNCINPEC office not far from an UNTAC building. [passage indistinct] Now there are up to 48 personnel in each FUNCINPEC office [words indistinct]. They killed the owner and stole his motorbike in broad daylight, then they took refuge in FUNCINPEC offices. So what should we do? We have no right to enter those offices. If we want to get in we should have UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] staff with us. But Prince Ranariddh charged that we staged the move. How could it be staged since foreign observers and UNTAC personnel were also present when we pulled those culprits out?

The prince, you can never deny that. Don't be bewildered with open eyes. [words indistinct] I am absolutely not competent. So I would like to invite the compatriots whose husbands, children, or younger or older brothers were killed to petition UNTAC to order Prince Ranariddh to pay moral indemnities. The prince should be held fully accountable for the damages because one of his generals is the leader of the gang. [passage indistinct] The prince has pursued a base policy by sucking the Cambodian people's blood in order to wrest back power. He dares commit such a base action while he has not yet had power, so when he regains power (?what will he do). The compatriots are urged to judge his actions.

I have made a number of decisions with a view to resolving the issue of (?division). The speech I am giving here now is designed to be broadcast on radio for the attention of the compatriots all over the country. First, other political parties and the allies of the Khmer Rouge are regarding the Khmer Rouge issue as a kid game. They are considering the genocidal regime as a kid game. [passage indistinct] Why? Because if the genocidal regime came back, they would rush to foreign countries [words indistinct]. They would never (?stay with) our people.

Now we are talking about [words indistinct] the war. Before the war came to an end, the CPP was the major party that was deeply concerned about the issue. If the CPP refused to negotiate, if the CPP did not sign the accord, all of you [other political parties] would have had no chance to launch the election campaign here. You would not have been able to put your legs on this land again since the CPP has controlled 90 percent of the territory and over 90 percent of population. If the CPP did not want to end the war through negotiations, it would not have been engaged in negotiations. By all appearances, we wanted to close the books on the war through peaceful means, meaning elections. [words indistinct] warlord. Phooey! You cannot be warlord alone because the CPP is also capable of being a warlord.

However, what is the core of the problem now? An inter-Cambodian meeting was held in Beijing in May [words indistinct]. I announced in Battambang Province that (?I would not take part) in any SNC [Supreme National Council] meeting to be held outside the country. However, his highness [Prince Sihanouk] called for a fraternal meeting in Beijing because he has been sick and needs to receive medical treatments in the Chinese capital city. I sent Dit Munti, an SNC member; Cham Prasit, and (?Chhin Sun-an), deputy foreign ministers and my advisers to participate in the meeting. But the Khmer Rouge did not attend the meeting, did not attend the meeting. [passage indistinct] His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk issued a statement strongly criticizing the Khmer Rouge. The latter made his highness feel very (?disappointed) because before the parley, the samdech [words indistinct]. The Khmer Rouge refused to join the talk. [passage indistinct]

This is one of the issues I need to clarify in order to prevent the other parties from exploiting it to garner votes. You can never do that because what you raised is insubstantial. [passage indistinct] In their campaigns, they completely ignore the Khmer Rouge issue. [words indistinct] the samdech said Mr. Hun Sen is strictly correct in demanding the expulsion of the Khmer Rouge from the SNC. In fact, I, Norodom Sihanouk, the samdech added, want also to demand the Khmer Rouge exclusion, but since I am a neutral person, I am restrained from doing so. [passage indistinct]

The Khmer Rouge have never cared about whether they are on the SNC or not. Apparently, they will continue to fight [words indistinct]. UNTAC is now requesting (?us to assist) its military and police forces. So now our task is not to protect only the people, but also UNTAC personnel and various political parties.

On 3 May in Siem Reap Province, [words indistinct]. [passage indistinct] If the Khmer Rouge were able to overrun the province, are the other parties still able to launch their campaigning there [words indistinct]? [passage indistinct] When the Khmer Rouge attacked Siem Reap, Kompong Thom, Kompong Speu, if we did not counterattack them, UNTAC personnel would probably have been killed and the other political parties [words indistinct]. I want to clearly clarify this matter today. The Khmer Rouge issue can never be a kid's game. [words indistinct] So how can we bring the war to an end? To end the war, we have to do whatever we can to make the holding of the elections successful.

Mr. Son Sann is now conducting [words indistinct] and demanded that the polls be postponed. Phooey! [words indistinct]. It is absolutely impossible to hold up the elections. The UN representative, Mr. Akashi, and His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk rejected Mr. Son Sann's demand [words indistinct]. The scheme of (?the samdech's son) and the Khmer Rouge [words indistinct]. Apart from opposing the World Bank's economic aid [words indistinct], they have also asked for the postponement of the assistance [words indistinct] for the purpose of further prolonging Cambodia's sufferings. That being the case, for the sake of peace and national reconciliation and to end the war, it is imperative that we do our utmost to hold the vitally important elections. And it is important that a constitution be drafted after the polls. When the constitution is in place, all the parties, regardless of whether they are red, blue, black, white, or yellow, should (?be reconciled and jointly form a government). You cannot just say reconciliation, reconciliation. You should emphatically tell us how we should be reconciled.

A party leader made a rhetorical claim that if he won the elections, he would be able to achieve reconciliation, adding that he would appoint (?Hun Sen) as deputy prime minister in charge of the Information Ministry, Khieu Samphan as deputy prime minister in charge of the Foreign Ministry, Son Sann as deputy prime minister in charge of banks, and, probably, lawyer Ranariddh as

deputy prime minister in charge of the Interior Ministry. [passage indistinct] Phooey! It is not that easy. The problem cannot be put to a halt just with Khieu Samphan's being named as a deputy prime minister. [passage indistinct] Suppose Khieu Samphan rejected the offer, what would happen then? [passage indistinct]

Now the other political parties must emphatically state their political platform and spell out the measures they will take to resist the Khmer Rouge. The core of the Khmer Rouge problem is not the issue of Khieu Samphan's being appointed deputy prime minister, but their (?absolute) power. [passage indistinct] The Khmer Rouge have already refused to recognize the election results, and have already refused to implement the accord. So in order to be reconciled with the Khmer Rouge, we have to annul the election results, then (?form a government of national reconciliation) with them. If this is the case, why should we hold the polls? The Khmer Rouge will, at all costs, refuse to recognize the election results and a new constitution. Their conditions are that the constitution should be annulled and the assembly dissolved. They want a four-party government to submit to them. [passage indistinct]

As for the famous prince [Ranariddh], he says that if he wins, he will be able to reconcile with the Khmer Rouge. However, he must realize that even the samdech has not been able to do anything to the Khmer Rouge, so as he is still immature, young [words indistinct]). If he wants to get killed, he should do it himself. Don't get others involved. Hun Sen is younger than the prince, but he is (?competently) experienced.

If Khieu Samphan were named as a deputy prime minister, the Khmer Rouge would have to [passage indistinct]. You should not just keep saying that. You should also talk about action. Look! It is now obvious that the Khmer Rouge refuse to implement the Paris Accord and take part in the elections. As such, it is absolutely certain that they will oppose the election results and the new constitution. [passage indistinct] The Khmer Rouge have refused to abide by the Paris Accord's letters. [passage indistinct]

The Khmer Rouge problem is not a normal issue. (?So what should we do) to prevent the Khmer Rouge from returning? We should vote for the Tevoda [supernatural being] party, the CPP [words indistinct]. I would like to emphasize that if the CPP wins, a civil war will never break out. Why? Because a war can be termed as civil war only if Cambodia is politically and legally divided into two regions of control and if the two governments, that is our government and the tripartite government without foreign backing, are fighting against each other. This is what we can take for a civil war. Moreover, the people will, through the elections, hand over power to a political party. [passage indistinct] No one will recognize the Khmer Rouge and those refusing to accept the new constitution will turn themselves into bandits.

After the elections, the United Nations will recognize the legitimate government. So won't foreign countries recognize and provide aid to that government? Those rejecting the elections and refusing to stay under the roof of the new constitution will be classified as bandits. That being the case, there will be no civil war in Cambodia. [passage indistinct] Also it is nonsensical to say that a civil war has already flared up when the government is taking military measures to crack down on armed robberies committed by those defying the Constitution and law. As grandmothers, grandfathers, and compatriots over 50 years old already know, after the Geneva agreement was signed in 1954 and elections were held in 1955, how much time did His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk spend to put an end to banditry. [passage indistinct]

If the CPP loses, what will happen then? The genocidal regime would precipitately rush back through the channel of FUNCINPEC and its allies. The regime will make a comeback through the conduit of the FUNCINPEC because they are close friends. [passage indistinct] Now we are still able to block their return because I am competent to command the military, police forces, and public servants. [passage indistinct] As such, we should unambiguously understand this problem. [passage indistinct]

I would also like to talk about the security issue. Why do I need to account for this issue now? I already raised this matter in the Kompong Cham provincial town. [passage indistinct] I have already given the reason why we need to maintain the status quo and security climate at present. We will allow no one to revise or change this status quo. [passage indistinct] Now the two allies of the Khmer Rouge and probably some other parties [words indistinct] claim that if they win, they will reclaim the property they possessed before 1975. They openly stated this. [passage indistinct] The people across the country need to be evacuated again: Those living in cities will be sent to the countryside, those staying in O Reang Euv will be moved to Kamchai Mea, those in Kamchai Mea to (Prek Ta Nong), those in Tbong Khmum to Ponhea Krek. In sum, people all over the country will be evacuated again.

[Passage indistinct] Now the two parties, allies of the Khmer Rouge, have begun to change their strategies toward property ownership and civil servants. In their campaign, some FUNCINPEC leaders have said that if their party wins, it will keep the present ownership, military and police forces, and civil servants. The only thing it will do is change senior officials and probably dismiss Hun Sen. But at the same time, (?other leaders of that party) claim that if they win, they will revise (?pre-1975) property ownership. Besides, some of the party (?members) in the United States have told our compatriots there that they should not buy houses or land in Phnom Penh and that if FUNCINPEC wins, they will be able to retake their houses. [passage indistinct]

Mr. Prince, your party should not act in this manner. You should have a clear-cut policy. It is no longer possible for you to (?fool the people). Anyway, if that party (?advocated the restoration of homes to their old owners), it would win no more than five percent of the total votes. And that five percent of voters would be made up only of those living abroad and wanting to reclaim their homes or land. [passage indistinct]

(?Last year) they continuously said that if they won, they would withdraw present property ownership, take back their homes, and evict all city dwellers from their residences. They want to take back their homes no matter what. [passage indistinct]

Now they have declared that they will keep all public servants [passage indistinct]. Playing politics, one should have a clear-cut strategy. [passage indistinct]

The CPP will not change its policy regardless of whether the other parties change theirs. [passage indistinct] The CPP pledges that if it wins first, it will prevent at all costs the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime; second, no one can seize or withdraw the present legal property ownership, such as houses, land, carts, oxen, buffaloes, horses, and other possessions of the population as was the case between 1975 and 1978; third, after the end of the war we will improve, with foreign assistance, the people's living standards and will not levy land taxes on the people for 10-15 years. [passage indistinct] I would like to tell the lawyer [Ranariddh] that the CPP will request the National Assembly to adopt a law exempting the peasants from paying land tax for five, seven, or 10 years. [passage indistinct]

And if you dare abrogate the law after you win the next elections, you would certainly be chopped up by the people. [passage indistinct] If you invalidate the law after you win, you will be in big trouble [words indistinct].

In summary, the CPP pledges to prevent the Pol Pot regime's return, abstain from revising property ownership, and promote growth by refraining from collecting land tax. [passage indistinct] Now I would like to introduce Lieutenant General (Kim Hang), who will explain about the FUNCINPEC Party.

[At this point Lt. Gen. (Kim Hang), a FUNCINPEC general who recently defected to the Phnom Penh regime, delivers a 40-minute statement denouncing FUNCINPEC's collusion with the Khmer Rouge, after which Hun Sen resumes his speech as follows:]

I would like to appreciatively thank Lt. Gen. (Kim Hang) for his explanation of the FUNCINPEC party, which represents a great danger to our nation. [passage indistinct] Now under the aegis of FUNCINPEC, the Khmer Rouge (?are using poison again). The compatriots are invited to carefully weigh the party's actions. Although it has not yet won the elections, the party has already cooperated with the Khmer Rouge to make war and has

also carried out acts of terrorism to assassinate a great many people. So if it wins, how will it act against our population?

Now I would like to ask this naive question: Do the clergy, grandmothers, grandfathers, and the compatriots want to see the return of the Pol Pot regime? Yes or no? [chants] Good, all the people are saying no. If you do not want the Pol Pot regime to return, which party will you vote for? The CPP? Yes? [applause] Thank you very much for your support. [applause] We have seen no one but the CPP, we have seen only the CPP confronting the Polpotists for 14 years; we have seen only the CPP protecting UNTAC personnel and the other political parties. In the future, we will continue to see only the CPP.

Today I am very happy because all of us are determined to prevent the evil genocidal regime from returning to the Cambodian homeland. The regime poses a hazard greater to it than the danger of an atomic bomb. [passage indistinct] We have already experienced the war of genocide in Cambodia. It was not a large-scale war but [words indistinct]. It was a war that we should seriously consider. We can never consider it a kid game that we can ignore.

As the compatriots can see, the Khmer Rouge's allies are the parties of FUNCINPEC and Mr. Son Sann. In their election campaign, do the other 19 parties dare denounce the Polpotists on radio and television? If they have no courage to do so, don't vote for them. Come what may, don't vote for them. [passage indistinct] How many people did the Polpotists kill between (?1991) and 1993? However, they continue to ignore the killing. [passage indistinct] This is why (?Hun Sen) often says that if they won, those gentlemen, excellencies, and princes would make themselves Cambodia's kings; on the contrary, if they lost, they would go and live as tycoons in France or the United States. We should never forget this issue.

[Passage indistinct] As the compatriots can see, under all circumstances the CPP, Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim have always been here (?with you). [passage indistinct] The FUNCINPEC Party's main goal is to assassinate me [words indistinct], Prince Chakkrapong, and the generals sitting here [words indistinct], especially Lt. Gen. (Kim Hang), because he is (?kinder) than the others. [passage indistinct] As Lt. Gen. (Kim Hang) stated before, that party was not even able to develop the small piece of land under its control and to improve the living conditions of the people there. Does it function? Does it have enough electricity? [words indistinct]

Now, he [Ranariddh] wants to assume control over the entire Cambodian territory by embarking on his journeys by plane. Ugh! It is impossible. In one of his ridiculous speeches, the prince uttered that the SOC [words indistinct] and the Cambodians in the United States, feeling pity on him, raised money then bought a plane for him. [passage indistinct] Now the prince can only travel by plane, no car any more. Grandmothers and grandfathers, you should strive to work harder to get

money to buy gas for the prince's plane. [passage indistinct] The planes (?you have seen) are not the property of the CPP. You should be aware of this matter. [Words indistinct] is contrary to the Paris Accord. [passage indistinct] Somehow, although he is not yet in power, he enjoys his travels only by plane. And as his plane is not allowed to land [words indistinct]. A plane is different than a car or a motorbike. Now he is using an UNTAC plane. UNTAC now allows various parties to travel on its planes [words indistinct]. Anyway, I refuse to travel by plane because I want to meet the people along the roads. I agree to let the prince enjoy his journeys by plane by himself. [unmonitorable passage omitted]

Khmer Rouge Reportedly Led by Hard-Line 'Troika'

OW1205133793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1031 GMT
12 May 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 12 KYODO—Cambodia's Khmer Rouge is being led by a troika of hard-line leaders headed by former Prime Minister Pol Pot, government military sources and others familiar with the maoist-inspired faction said Wednesday.

The troika consists of Pol Pot, Ta Mok, commander of the Khmer Rouge forces, and Khieu Samphan, recently raised to the No. 3 spot in the faction, the sources said.

Ieng Sary, a moderate former deputy prime minister, was reportedly dropped from the party leadership, they said.

The troika system is apparently intended to present a monolithic leadership of hard-liners for the coming struggle, the sources said, adding that if Khmer Rouge plans to obstruct the May 23-28 elections fail, they will again try to seize the government by military force.

The former leadership included a mix of hard-liners and moderates, but after the signing of the 1991 Paris peace accords, the hard-liners gained in influence. Ta Mok won the trust of Pol Pot when negotiations with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) failed to make progress.

Khieu Samphan, previously regarded as the faction's spokesman without any real power, has gained in stature for his diplomatic abilities in frustrating UNTAC and reportedly was seated as the third most powerful figure in the faction at a meeting of leaders in mid-April.

According to the Phnom Penh government military sources, the power structure beneath the troika is not clear, adding it would be difficult for the moderates to regain their power base.

Laos**Leaders Receive PRC Defense Minister**

BK1305044393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Yesterday, Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and prime minister, and Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the LPRP Central Committee and president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], separately received in Vientiane a courtesy call from General Chi Haotian, PRC state councillor and national defense minister. In the meetings and talks which proceeded in an atmosphere of close fraternal friendship and comradeship, both Chairman Khamtai Siphandon and President Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed a wholehearted welcome to Gen. Chi Haotian. The general brought with him to the party, state, and people of Laos as well as cadres and combatants in the entire armed forces of the LPDR National Defense Ministry the fraternal, comradely friendship of the party, state, and people of China in general, and the cadres and combatants of the PRC National Defense Ministry in particular. The two leaders assessed the general's visit as a very significant milestone as it has contributed to further enhancing and strengthening, ever more firmly, the time-honored relations of friendship of the parties, states, and peoples of Laos and China.

On behalf of the LPRP Central Committee, the government, and people of Laos, Chairman Khamtai Siphandon and President Nouhak Phoumsavan deeply thanked the party, government, and friendly Chinese people for their material and spiritual support and assistance to the Lao revolutionary cause in the national liberation struggle as well as to the present struggle to defend and build the country.

On this occasion, PRC National Defense Minister Gen. Chi Haotian informed Chairman Khamtai Siphandon and President Nouhak Phoumsavan of the results of his visit to the LPDR. He also conveyed to Chairman Khamtai Siphandon and President Nouhak Phoumsavan as well as other Lao party and state leaders the best regards of Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC, as well as other Chinese party and state leaders. The Chinese national defense minister also expressed satisfaction over the flourishing and fruitful development of their long-standing friendly and good-neighborly relations and cooperation. In addition, he expressed profound thanks to the Lao party and state leaders and people for their warm welcome given to him and his delegation during their visit.

Banquet Welcomes PRC Defense Minister

BK1305073593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 13 May 93

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] On the evening of 11 May, Comrade Huang Guocai, ambassador extraordinary and

plenipotentiary of the PRC to Laos, organized a banquet in Vientiane to welcome Comrade General Chi Haotian, state councillor and prc national defense minister, who is now on an official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. Attending the banquet were Comrade Lieutenant General Choummali Saignason, national defense minister; Comrade Lieutenant General Ai Souli-gnaseng, deputy minister of national defense and head of the Army General Staff Department; and Comrade Lieutenant General Siphon Phalikhan, deputy minister of national defense and head of the Army General Political Department; along with a number of high-ranking officers of Laos.

At the banquet, Comrade Lt. Gen. Choummali Saignason delivered a speech expressing best wishes and a warm welcome to Comrade Gen. Chi Haotian. In his speech, Lt. Gen. Choummali Saignason once again reiterated the promotion of long-standing relations and cooperation, and traditional friendship between the two nations and armies of Laos and China. He wished for the further maintenance, consolidation, and enhancement of relations and cooperation.

The banquet proceeded in an atmosphere of warm friendship.

Information Head Discusses Cambodia, DRPK

BK1305050193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] On 12 May, Vanheuung Vongvichit, head of the Information Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, briefed Khaosan Pathet Lao [KPL] reporters on the stance of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] on certain foreign issues. Regarding the settlement of the Cambodian problem, the Information Department head said: Systematic progress has been achieved in implementing the Paris agreement on the comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem through political means. This is a result of the efforts to achieve national reconciliation by the various Cambodian factions which have carried out activities within the scope of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. This is also a result of the performance of duties by the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], in addition to the positive contribution made by the world community. Of late, the LPDR has been concerned about the violent acts under many forms, such as the violation of the cease-fire and the murder of both Cambodian nationals and UNTAC officials as well as Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. As a signatory state of the Paris accord, the LPDR joined with other signatory states in issuing a statement on 22 April 1993 on the comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem through peaceful means. The statement is intended to support steps leading to the elections scheduled for 23 to 27 May this year.

As a neighboring country which has all along maintained traditionally good relations with Cambodia and in its capacity as a signatory state of the Paris Accord, the LPDR fully supports all activities aimed at achieving

national reconciliation in Cambodia, and pledges to do its best to contribute to the said activities. The LPDR is ready to accept the outcome of the free and fair UN-organized elections in Cambodia in order to further maintain, promote, and expand good relations with independent, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia.

On the DPRK, the head of the Information Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry said: The LPDR has always supported and hailed the earnest aspirations of the Korean people who wish to peacefully reunify their independent nation and turn the Korean peninsula into a peaceful region free from nuclear weapons. But it is regrettable that the progress and outcome of the North-South Korean meetings and talks in the recent past are faced with new obstacles. The LPDR is concerned about this. The LPDR is of the view that any decision on the nuclear issue in the Korean peninsula should be made only through peaceful talks in the interest of peace and stability in this region and the world.

President, Premier Hail Visit of Burmese Group

BK1205152993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Maung Maung Khin, deputy prime minister of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], and his party paid courtesy calls respectively on President Nhouhak Phoumsavan and Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon in Vientiane this morning.

During the courtesy calls, the president and the prime minister of Laos wholeheartedly hailed the visit to Laos by Maung Maung Khin and his party, which constitutes an important step in the strengthening of relations of friendship between Laos and Myanmar—the two neighboring countries having a long-standing tradition of solidarity and friendship.

President Nhouhak Phoumsavan and Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon expressed satisfaction to see that the traditional relations of friendship between the two countries have been gradually developed. They expressed confidence that the Myanmar deputy prime minister's visit would become an important contribution to further enhancing peace, friendship, and cooperation between Laos and Myanmar and in the region. The head of the high-level delegation of the Union of Myanmar also expressed a similar hope and thanked the Lao leaders and Government for having accorded a warm welcome to his delegation during the visit.

Joint Thai Border Peacekeeping Meeting Held

BK1205030393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 11 May 93

[Text] A meeting of the border peacekeeping cooperation committees of Vientiane Province and Loei Province, the Kingdom of Thailand, was held in Loei Province on 6 May.

At the meeting, the Lao delegation was led by Mounkeo Olaboun, governor of Vientiane Province and chairman of the Vientiane-Loei border peacekeeping cooperation committee, while the Thai side was headed by Sub-Lieutenant Somnuk Phuwichian, governor of Loei Province and chairman of the Loei-Vientiane border peacekeeping cooperation committee.

The two sides held consultations and agreed to cooperate in actively suppressing the bad elements who have carried out terrorist activities along the Vientiane-Loei border; robbery of motorcycles, cars, and other valuables; illegal border trading; producing and trafficking in all kinds of narcotics; and luring and kidnapping people. In case of cross-border robberies, authorities must inform each other of the event and wherever the suspects are arrested legal action must be taken in that area under the laws of that country.

Further, both sides agreed to open two permanent border checkpoints. The first is in the area bordering Sanakham Municipality, Vientiane Province, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Chiang Khan District, Loei Province. The second is on the border of Ban Dam, Sanakham District, Vientiane Province, and Ban Khok Phai, Pak Chom District, Loei Province.

The two border checkpoints are scheduled to be officially opened on 23 June and 23 September, respectively.

Paper Views Internal Trading Situation

BK1205082593 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 29 Apr 93 p 2

[Article by Leuam Gnongvongsitthi: "Trading Situation at Present"]

[Text] At present, the internal trade situation in Laos is considerably good. There is enough or probably more than enough goods supply to meet the local demand. At the markets in various localities throughout the country, there are more sellers than buyers and the prices of goods are consistently normal although prices of some kinds of goods are a bit high.

The circulation of goods, especially through retail shops, has expanded significantly. The indication is that from 1992 to early 1993 a total of 18,123 retail shops were legally registered in accordance with the trade regulation No. 142/MTT dealing with internal trading. Throughout the country, about 3,000 retail shops have still been under registration procedures.

All over the country, there are more than 360 import-export business enterprises which are performing the role of wholesalers. These include goods-producing factories, which import raw materials and machinery for use in their operation and at the same time export their products.

The number of markets in each province has increased significantly. Most of the shops are operated by own investment of the traders.

More goods have been sent to rural areas, especially where communications and transportation are convenient and can be reached by roads.

The circulation of goods has expanded rapidly, from town to rural area, from province to province, and from one part to another part of the country. Trading has linked towns to rural areas where there has been greater supply of goods.

There has been more variety of goods and there are now all kinds of goods to meet the public demand.

The government's open-door policy has encouraged cross-border trading between Laos and its neighboring countries. This kind of trading has considerably attracted foreign investors to invest in Laos.

This is the brief current situation of trading development in our country.

However, we must understand that we still are in the stage of producing for living not for trading. It means we still are in the stage of natural economy. We earn our livings to ensure sufficient local consumption for ourselves—Lao people. We have not yet reached the stage of a goods production economy. Therefore, our target now is to turn from natural economy for sufficient local consumption to a goods production economy. This will not be easy. Therefore, we must devote our intellect, efforts, and funds to encourage producers and farmers to understand the real situation and to produce goods for both local consumption and export. At present, the production for export has just begun for some kinds of goods, such as mung bean, soy bean, sesame, castor bean, and other agricultural products.

Besides, there has also been production of some kinds of industrial goods for export only, such as garments.

Other kinds of goods that have been produced for export are handicraft, silverware, and silk and cotton products, all of which have become popular goods among tourists and some of them have been exported through a postal delivery system.

Since we have begun to produce goods for both local consumption and export, the prices of goods in the country have remained consistently normal. The value of the kip currency has remained consistently stable. There is no big difference between the prices of goods in rural areas and towns; as it is between those in one province and another.

Although there has to some extent been production of goods for local consumption and export, we still have to import some foreign goods. One reason is to meet the demand of the local market. For another reason, in order to promote goods production in the country, we have to link our internal market to the foreign one. At the same time, we also need a correct management for importing goods, especially the kinds of goods that we have already produced in our country.

Our trading policy is open door policy but we must also protect our internal production of goods in the country.

How and why must we protect our internal production? At present, there are two points of view on this subject:

The first is that whenever there is production, there must be protection right away, no matter that production will be up to the standard or not.

The second is that protection is needed to ensure the supply of goods for consumers, regarding the quantity, quality, and prices of goods.

Our trading policy is open, competitive, free, and legal. Therefore, concurrently we must understand what is the mechanism of market economy and how to protect the production. First of all, the protection of any kind of goods must be based on the benefits of the consumers.

If we only aim to simply protect production but do not care about the benefit and desires of consumers, the producer would be happy and earn a lot of profit because it would be the sole producer and seller. If that is really the case, consumers, which are large in number, would suffer for they have no choice and have to use the products, which could be of good or bad quality.

In the system of market economy, we should protect the production with economic standard. That is the producer must improve his production to suit the demand of the market as follows:

a) He must produce a sufficient quantity of goods to meet the market demand.

b) The goods produced must be of the same good quality as foreign goods or even better.

c) The prices of produced goods must be reasonable, especially they should be lower than the same kind of goods imported from another country. If this can be done, it would automatically protect the locally produced goods and no other control measures would be necessary.

To promote the production, we must have a market. Marketing is the duty of the Ministry of Trade, but other sectors must help too.

Government Receives UNDP Aid for Management

BK0905034693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 9 May 93

[Text] The United Nations Development Program [UNDP] representation office in Laos has decided to grant aid of more than U.S.\$2 million to the Lao Government for use in improving the management of state employees, civil servants, and state administration.

Mrs. [name indistinct] Perera, representative of the UNDP office in Laos, together with Alounkeo Kit-tikhoun, director of the International Organizations Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, signed

the aforementioned agreement at the Prime Minister's Office on the evening of 7 May.

The agreement was made upon a request from the Lao Government and agencies responsible for the development and management of political and economic progress. To implement the project, the UNDP will provide assistance and support to institutions for the management of state employees, civil servants, and state administration as well as prepare and publicize various documents on state policies.

Savannakhet Province Women's Union Holds Congress

BK0805093093 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 8 May 93

[Excerpts] The fifth conference of the Women's Union of Savannakhet Province was officially held at the [name indistinct] Club, Savannakhet Province, on 4-5 May, with the participation of 111 delegates.

Those attending the meeting included Boun-guang Volachit, Party Central Committee member, secretary of the Savannakhet Province Party Committee, and governor of Savannakhet Province; Mrs. Onchan Thammavong, Party Central Committee member and president of the Federation of Lao Women's Unions [FLWU]; Saisomphon Phomvihan, Party Central Committee member and deputy governor of Savannakhet Province; representatives of various services and mass organizations in the province; as well as a number of intellectuals and invited guests.

The meeting heard a political report from the executive committee of the provincial women's union presented by Mrs. Phouthon Phetsalat, member of the provincial party committee, member of the executive committee of the FLWU Central Committee, and president of the Savannakhet Province Women's Union, on achievements attained by the provincial women's union and activities carried out by women's unions of various ethnic groups and strata in contributing to the collective goals of Savannakhet Province. [passage omitted]

In addition, the meeting set a work plan for the provincial women's union for the period from the fifth to sixth congresses and successfully cast votes to elect a new executive committee of the provincial women's union.

Philippines

Ramos ROK Visit To Focus on Export Restrictions

HK1205141793 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1130 GMT 12 May 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] The unusual combination of bananas and floppy disk drives is the leading trade issue to be taken up by President Fidel V. Ramos when he visits South Korea

two weeks from now. Philippine banana exports to South Korea were down last year, primarily because the Korean Government began to restrict banana imports after Philippine banana exports to Korea rose from \$2 million to \$24 million in 1991.

Edsel Custodio, undersecretary of the Department of Trade and Industry, said that Philippine banana exports fell to \$14 million in 1992 when the Korean Government slapped a four per cent tariff on Philippine bananas. This was in addition to the 50 per cent tariff already being paid by Philippine banana exporters. Furthermore, the Koreans gave Taiwan the Philippine export quota of 50,000 metric tons of bananas. Custodio said that the Koreans believe that Philippine bananas threaten their local apple and pear industries.

South Korea has also reduced its imports of floppy disk drives, a component of computer systems. The Koreans have tightened the rules on imported floppy disks, decreeing that disk drives should have a local element of at least 35 per cent. They have also reduced the quota of floppy disk imports from the Philippines. This quota has not yet been reached.

Ramos To Sign Extradition Treaty

HK1305141593 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 13 May 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos will sign an extradition treaty during his visit to South Korea next week. Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon explained that the new treaty will be similar to the agreements the Philippines has signed with Australia, Canada, Indonesia and Thailand. The treaty does not cover people involved in political cases.

Economic Authority Approves Development Projects

HK1205030893 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 12 May 93 p 1

[Report by Maricor Zapata]

[Text] The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board headed by President Ramos yesterday approved the implementation of P [Philippine peso] 1.7 billion worth of development projects, two of which are power projects.

Economic Planning Secretary and Neda Director-General Cielito F. Habito identified the two power projects as the 11-megawatt (Mw) Maibarara geothermal power station in Batangas and the Mexico capacitor project in Pampanga.

Both would be implemented by the state-owned National Power Corp (Napocor).

The P500-million Maibarara conventional geothermal power plant, with its associated transmission lines and

substations, will be based in Sto Tomas, Batangas and is targetted for operation in 1994.

The Mexico capacitor project in Pampanga was pegged at P177 million and is expected to be commissioned or started up also in 1994.

The project would involve the installation of four units of 50 megavolt ampere reactive capacitors to prevent system voltage collapse in Napocor's transmission lines network.

The Neda board also approved in its meeting in Malacanang yesterday afternoon the 17th tranche of the Philippine-Japan increased food production program worth P1 billion.

Habito said the 17th tranche fund would be used to promote the country's agricultural growth and development.

This, he said, would be done through the provision of agricultural inputs, technical assistance, and financial support to the projects of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and support services and environmental education to farmers and fishermen.

Neda recalled that the Philippine-Japan increased food production program began in early 1977 when the Japanese government extended to the Philippines a commodity assistance in the form of fertilizers, agricultural chemicals, and agricultural machineries and equipment.

President Ramos also asked for a formulation of a core investment program to contain high priority government projects for its public investment program for the medium-term 1993-1998.

The core investment program would be spared from cut-backs resulting from revenue shortfalls, Habito said. The core investment program is one of the few amendments to the government's Medium-Term Public Investment Program (MTPIP) for 1993-1998, the Neda board, headed by the President, approved in its meeting yesterday.

Neda said other amendments were: setting up of a monitoring system to implement the public investment program and provide a background to the MTPIP.

The President also directed the investment coordination committee, the development budget coordination committee and the government corporate monitoring and coordinating committee to ensure that the review and approval of major development projects and annual budgets for government capital investment will consider the desired resource allocation under the MTPIP or its subsequent updated versions.

Government Spending Drops in 1st Quarter

HK1305060093 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 13 May 93 p B-1

[Report by Fil C. Sionil]

[Text] Belt tightening measures have been adopted by the government in a bid to keep the budgetary deficit low, spending only P84.5 [Philippine pesos] billion from January to mid-April out of the P92.7 billion programmed.

However, reining its expenditures for the period in review was negated by poor revenue collections.

Collections amounted to only P70.3 billion against the P75.693 billion target, a shortfall of P5.354 billion.

With disbursements exceeding the collections, the national government incurred a deficit of P14.195 billion, which was lower by P2.767 billion from the programmed P16.692 billion for the period.

It is feared that the poor performance of the government's revenue generating agencies would critically weaken the Philippines' position at the resumption of talks with the International Monetary Fund for a successor economic program tentatively scheduled late this month or early June.

Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario Jr. had earlier sought a longer recess from negotiations with the Fund so figures on the April Revenue collections of the government could be used in the discussions.

While the complete revenue picture, particularly that of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) since April 15 is the last day of the filing of income tax returns, could only be indicated in full by the performance during the end of the month, the April 15 position could also be crucial as it indicates the trend in revenue collections.

Tax collections by the BIR amounted to only P42.055 billion for the period in review, some 7 percent drop from the programmed level of P45.187 billion.

Bureau of Customs performance further compounded the situation as its total collections reached only P19.447 billion from the targetted level of P20.14 billion.

It would be recalled that the IMF wants the government to improve its fiscal position, which is a crucial element under the successor economic program.

IMF resident representative to Manila Christopher Browne said that a stronger fiscal position is a requirement in attaining a sustainable economic growth for the medium term.

The fiscal issue had been the bone of contention during the second round of discussion with the Fund last month with the Philippine panel insisting it could hit revenue targets for the full year of P286.982 billion.

Police Not Convinced Muslims Behind Bombings

HK1205135893 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 12 May 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] Manila police today rejected earlier suggestions that Muslim fundamentalists were behind the bombing on the Light Rail Transit [LRT] stations in Abad Santos and Baclaran. The police still have no suspects, and, according to the Philippine National Police Capital Command, they are still investigating the case.

[Begin unidentified police officer recording in English] Right now we are closely monitoring the results and the progress of the investigation, as we are also directed by higher headquarters to immediately solve the [word indistinct] incident. [end recording]

Manila police also said they have assigned plainclothes policemen to all LRT stations to investigate the bombing. Meanwhile, the Metro Transit Organization, which runs the LRT, said it will implement tighter security measures in all LRT stations.

[Begin Metro official recording in English] We asked them to beef up the number of guards that are being posted, and also we've asked them to provide some metal detectors, additional metal detectors. [end recording]

LRT operations were back to normal this morning after having been suspended last night. The number of passengers was not affected, but Metro officials fear the number of passengers would fall due to concerns about safety.

The home-made time bombs exploded in two trains last night, wounding 22. It was 1944 last night when a homemade time bomb with a hand grenade exploded inside a train going to Baclaran. Eight people were hurt. A minute later, another similar bomb exploded under the seat of another train going to Abad Santos. This time 14 people were hurt.

[Begin train operator recording] When I was entering the Abad Santos station, I heard an explosion. It did not bother me, because I thought it was normal—it sounded like firecrackers. But the explosion was quite powerful. When I entered Abad Santos and opened the doors, the passengers stampeded. It was then that I realized the explosion had occurred in my train. When I looked at my rear [word indistinct], it was full of smoke. [end recording]

Deploy To Combat Bombers

HK1305040693 Quezon City MALAYA in English
13 May 93, pp 1, 6

[Report by Joy Gruta, Jimmy Perez, and Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Manila policemen were ordered yesterday to secure government buildings and other vital installations in the city in anticipation of possible terroristic activities.

Another 500 plainclothes policemen were deployed to secure stations of the Light Rail Transit [LRT] and

establishments frequented by the public like movie houses and department stores.

Tighter security measures, including screening of LRT commuters, were ordered implemented a day after two bomb explosions hit the LRT stations in Baclaran and Abad Santos St. in Manila.

The Philippine National Police [PNP] said 14 persons were wounded in the Abad Santos blast at 7:30 p.m. Seven others were injured in the Baclaran blast which came about 15 minutes later.

In Misamis Oriental, communist rebels early Tuesday ambushed soldiers on patrol and then allowed government troops to rescue three wounded troopers before blasting two military vehicles, wounding 10 more soldiers.

Maj. Alex Congmon, an Army division spokesman, said a platoon of soldiers and militiamen was on patrol when New People's Army rebels ambushed them on the outskirts of Salay town.

An hour later, reinforcements arrived in two armored personnel carriers and a truck. One of the vehicles drove over a land mine on the way back, damaging one carrier and the truck. The rebels then opened fire and escaped after a few minutes.

On the LRT bombings, President Ramos said Transportation Secretary Jesus Garcia has assured him measures are being taken to prevent similar incidents.

Garcia said the LRT Authority [LRTA] is ready to shoulder hospital and other medical expenses of the victims.

Alberto Arevalo, LRTA administrator, said LRT operations will return to normal today.

No group has claimed responsibility for the bomb blasts but intelligence operatives of the Western Police District [WPD] Command have been ordered to keep a tight watch on the Muslim center in Quiapo.

Chief Inspector Manolo Martinez, head of the WPD homicide section, said Muslim terrorists could be out to retaliate the setback suffered by Muslim rebels who had kidnapped a Spanish priest and a five-year-old boy in Basilan. A number of kidnappers have reportedly been killed in massive rescue operations launched by government forces.

The two hostages have been released but government forces are continuing offensives against the rebels to force them to surrender. The possibility of retaliatory attacks was raised following a report from a member of Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim's investigation and complaints unit.

The report said three men left a plastic bag inside an LRT coach just moments before the train left the station in Monumento, Kalookan for Baclaran.

Earlier reports said the bombs were similar to those which exploded at the domestic airport terminal last month. Muslims rebels were suspected to be behind the bombing.

But Chief Superintendent Romeo Odi, WPD chief, said: "It's still too early to speculate. I just ordered them to secure government buildings and places frequented by the public as a matter of SOP (standard operating procedure)."

A WPD team which responded to the Abad Santos blast recovered a grenade lever and pin at the site.

The PNP identified the 13 injured as Frederick S. Bautista, 32; Percy C. Bernardo, 37; Tolen S. Castro, 23; Alberto M. Co, 22; Teresito F. Delecenci, 24; Rowena Docayo, 23; Elizabeth Herrera, 37; Alfonso A. Francisco, 65; Karrah E. Linis, 4; Fe C. Oblas, 24; Zaldy Reganio, 37; Angelo C. Trinidad, 31; Danilo C. Trinidad, 34; and Manuel G. Tuazon, 55.

At the Baclaran blast, injured were Armando U. Alberto, 29; Jenny A. Ativo, 32; Reggie B. Bersamira, 33; Ruth C. Damasco, 25; Larry A. Galinog, 30; Socorro B. Romero, 41; and George R. Santos, 20.

Responding policemen recovered a dry cell battery, a blasting cap, and a safety lever for an MK2 grenade.

Thailand

Chuan Convenes Meeting To Discuss Cambodia

BK1205151193 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 12 May 93

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai today called a meeting of the board of the National Security Council at Government House. The meeting was attended by the defense minister, interior minister, and commanders of the three branches of the Armed Forces. After the meeting, which lasted for nearly three hours, General Charan Kunlawanit, secretary general of the National Security Council, reported to the press that they discussed the 23-27 May election in Cambodia. He said the government will support the election as long as it is just and clean in accordance with the goal set by the United Nations. Regarding formation of the government, Thailand will watch for the trends of the Cambodian assembly and try to determine what the Cambodian constitution will be like.

[Begin Charan recording] The Thai Government will fully support the United Nations in order to contribute to a smooth election as planned by the United Nations. Thailand supports the principle of a peaceful reunification of the Cambodian nation. Violence in Cambodia [words indistinct]. We will not interfere in any way in Cambodian affairs. [end recording]

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai stressed that the Thai Government will fully support the election in Cambodia.

As for preventing the influx of refugees at the border, the prime minister said the Interior and Defense Ministries will be in charge of this.

[Begin Chuan recording] We will cooperate with the United Nations in every way no matter what requests we may receive from it. This is because we wish to see a smooth election. The result of the election is up to the Cambodian people. But Thailand will support all moves taken under the peace plan. That was what we emphasized during the meeting. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan, when asked about the withdrawal of Khmer Serei leader Son Sann from the election, said he still did not know about the final decision of Son Sann. But he said there will be no affect on Thailand even if Son Sann decided not to participate in the election.

Lieutenant General Chettha Thanacharo, commander of the 1st Army Region, commenting on Son Sann's statement reflecting his lack of confidence in the security measures adopted by the United Nations, said the situation is something normal in a country where fighting has been raging continuously. Asked whether Son Sann's withdrawal from the election would trigger a renewal of violence in Cambodia, Lt. Gen. Chettha said he could not predict. He said it is the responsibility of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia to hold the election. Asked about the spillover into Thailand from the fighting, the 1st Army Region commander said it was because the fighting had been moving closer to Thailand's border, but he ruled out any concern over that because he is confident about Thailand's neutrality and about the good understanding between Thailand and the four Cambodian factions.

Concerning Khmer bandits operating along the Thai-Cambodian border, the Supreme Command held a meeting of units concerned during which authorities had been told to step up intelligence and mop-up operations. More checkpoints will be set up, manned by combined forces of civilian, police, and military officials, and rapid deployment forces. There will be an improvement in communications facilities, and an expansion of the border defense and development program to cover more villages along the border.

Security Chief Comments

BK1305021193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 May 93 p 6

[Text] PRIME Minister Chuan Likphai yesterday warned against any premature worrying over the situation in Cambodia, saying the fighting was only taking place in some parts of the country.

Mr Chuan said after chairing a National Security Council (NSC) meeting which centred on Cambodia attended by top brass and foreign affairs decision makers that it was too early to conclude the situation was deteriorating.

NSC chief Gen Charan Kunlawanit said armed conflict had taken place in six of Cambodia's 20 provinces with the most extended engagement in Siem Reap lasting a few hours only.

The meeting was also attended by Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak, Armed Forces Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Woranat Apichari and Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan.

The meeting came on the eve of an orientation, opening in Phatthaya today, for international monitors of the Cambodian elections set to begin on May 23.

Thailand is sending 27 officials to join 65 other countries in attempting to ensure the fairness of the election organised by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Mr Chuan said Thailand was prepared to do more than send election monitors in support of the UNTAC-supervised elections.

The Thai team is expected to operate in the northwestern province of Battambang and surrounding areas where a Thai engineering force is stationed.

Gen Charan said he expected more clashes in Cambodia and that UNTAC had a peacekeeping mission which it should accomplish.

UNTAC is expected to pull out of Cambodia in August after the installation of the country's newly-elected government.

The NSC chief said he did not expect the fighting to cause a new influx of refugees as rival forces had military, not civilian, targets.

He also dismissed as a misconception by the international community that Thailand had a "special relationship" with the Khmer Rouge.

He said there was no evidence to support such a view.

Mr Surin, meanwhile, urged all Cambodian factions to work for national reconciliation rather than resort to violence.

He said in a veiled reference to the Khmer Rouge that any party which decided against joining the elections should not disrupt the event because this constituted a global effort for peace in Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge have refused to participate in the elections and have stepped up violence in the present runoff to the race.

In Sisaket Province, the closure of Khao Phra Vihan in Cambodia has upset Thai tour operators forced to cancel trips to the area.

Sisaket provincial officials yesterday said the reopening of the temple in Cambodia's northern province of Preah Vihear would depend on the situation in the area.

Khmer Rouge guerrillas on Tuesday evening came under shelling from rival Phnom Penh forces an hour after they set up position just four kilometres from the tourist attraction.

The shelling came after Phnom Penh forces informed Thai authorities of their decision to close Khao Phra Vihan, citing fears of its capture by the Khmer Rouge.

Denies Supporting Khmer Rouge

*BK1305090793 Bangkok NAE0 NA in Thai 13 May 93
p 10*

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Speaking to reporters after a meeting of the National Security Council at Government House yesterday, General Charan Kunlawanit, secretary general of the National Security Council, said some countries have shamelessly accused Thailand of having forged supportive ties with the Khmer Rouge. He stressed that Thailand has always maintained equal relations with all the Cambodian factions.

He said a foreign ambassador had recently shown him satellite photos of Thai lorries delivering weapons to the Khmer Rouge through the Thai-Cambodian border in Surin Province. Gen. Charan said he had thanked the envoy and suggested that the latter should find out which country the satellite belonged to and the motive for such an action.

He continued: "Some countries just like to blame others and keep quiet about the export of timber to Japan and Singapore. The meeting was informed that the area opposite Surin Province is not under Khmer Rouge control; the whole story was a sheer fabrication." He showed the satellite photos of the felling of illegal logs and the sawn timber business in Cambodia to reporters. The letters JEP, standing for Japan, and SPE, for Singapore, were clearly visible.

Touching on an accusation regarding the Khmer Rouge leader, Pol Pot, the secretary general said that no Thai or foreigners had ever seen this person in the area, adding: "Some people just talk without a sense of responsibility. Thai people have dignity and know what they are doing. We are not hypocrites like those who keep telling other people to help bring peace, but they themselves do the opposite."

Army Engineers Continue Work in Cambodia

*BK1305080593 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in
Thai 0000 GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Thai military engineers continued their efforts to help Cambodia. The Special Task Force Unit 2 of the military engineers has to work jointly with the UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] to develop transportation routes, the Battambang airport, and other infrastructure in Cambodia. Thai soldiers have also helped to build barracks for the Malaysian troops who joined the UN peacekeeping forces in Cambodia. The Thai military engineers also provided tap

water for the Cambodian people in the area near Battambang. Since the Thai soldiers started their work to help Cambodia, there has not been casualties or problems. Their work also helps strengthen relations between Thailand and Cambodia.

Foreign Drug Firms 'Optimistic' on Patents Pact

BK1305022393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 May 93 p 24

[Text] REPRESENTATIVES of foreign drug companies yesterday expressed optimism that Thailand and the United States will soon reach agreement on pharmaceutical patent protection.

The only significant difference between the positions of the two sides, the company officials explained, is the disagreement over retroactive protection of products already patented but not yet sold in Thailand. Thailand has offered to provide four years of this "pipeline protection." The United States still demands seven years' coverage.

But none of the representatives indicated that foreign companies would find the present Thai position on pipeline protection acceptable. The officials suggested that any further concessions must come from the Thai side.

A Thai government official also said he believed that the remaining differences were minor.

Yesterday, John Martin, country manager for American pharmaceutical producer, Upjohn Co. and chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce's Intellectual Property Rights Subcommittee, claimed that important progress has been made in the talks between the United States and Thailand and that the dispute will soon be resolved.

"The signs are encouraging," he commented in an interview, that agreement is at hand. Mr Martin noted that his statements represented his personal opinions and not the position of the Intellectual Property Rights Subcommittee.

Mr Martin believes that the Thai side now understands that Thailand has little to lose and much to gain by extending pipeline protection to seven years.

He noted that pipeline protection will not affect any drugs already on the market in Thailand and claims that competition will keep the prices of any new drugs reasonable. He stated that pharmaceuticals produced by multinational drug companies account for only 25 percent of the Thai market by volume.

These products primarily occupy a high-market niche that, he claimed, local producers are unable to supply. Thais thus have little to fear, he argued, from extension of pipeline protection to seven years.

At the same time, Mr Martin believes that non-pharmaceutical Thai industries are having a powerful impact on the Government's negotiating position.

Because of pressure from companies fearing US retaliation, he commented, Thailand is now 'taking very seriously' patent protection.

Mr Martin denied that the Clinton administration's consideration of measures to regulate drug prices in the United States itself would affect the negotiations between Thailand and the United States. The administration has dropped the issue, he argued, though conceding that it did so largely as a result of pressure from pharmaceutical concerns.

Other drug company representatives similarly believe that Thailand will extend pipeline protection for longer than four years.

Melvyn Leddy, executive director of the Pharmaceutical division of Ciba-Geigy, the Swiss drug company, stated in an interview, "I'm optimistic because I think the Thai Government has already made good progress."

"The pipeline protection issue is not a major issue," he added.

Inthira Kemakawat, president of the association representing multinational drug companies, the Pharmaceutical Producers Association agreed that greater understanding on the Thai side and pressure from non-pharmaceutical industries would induce the Government to accept the American position.

"I'm really optimistic because the impact to the pharmaceutical industry is minimal and the benefit to industry is considerable."

A Thai government official who asked to remain anonymous also said he believed that the remaining differences between the United States and Thailand are small.

"I don't think it (the pipeline protection issue) is important." He added that he does not understand why the Public Health Ministry is taking a firm stand on the point.

But despite the prevalent belief that Thailand and the United States will soon resolve their differences on pipeline protection, accord may only lead to further conflicts.

Dr Gundeolf Hoppe, managing director of German-based Schering's Thai subsidiary, said that he is "pleased that some progress was made" during Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon's recent trip to Washington. But he claimed that "even if they get an agreement on paper, it will be some time before it will be adequately implemented."

Disagreements over implementation measures, therefore, could produce new disputes between Thailand and foreign governments and drug companies.

Pipeline Protection Said To Have 'Little Impact'

*BK1205022793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 May 93 p 24*

[Text] The seven-year "pipeline" protection for pharmaceuticals will have little impact on Thailand, the president of the association representing multinational drug companies said yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference called specially to discuss the recent Thai-US negotiations, Intira Kemakawat, president of the Pharmaceutical Producers Association [PPA], said seven years of backdated protection for "pipeline" drugs will neither be particularly beneficial nor increase the price of drugs.

Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said on Friday after his return from the Washington talks that the only remaining difference between the two countries is the length of protection for "pipeline" drugs—those already invented but unavailable in Thailand when the new patent law took effect last year.

The Thai Government is willing to give four years of protection but the US is seeking seven years.

The PPA claimed that it was a mistake to believe that the PPA's members, the research-based companies would receive huge benefits from the country's protection of pharmaceutical products already marketed elsewhere in the world but not yet marketed in Thailand—the so-called pipeline protection.

Mrs Intira said that if Thailand had extended seven years pipeline protection for pharmaceutical products as the United States demanded in the trade negotiations it would not have any effect on local drug markets because the products that would come under the pipeline are very little with high competition.

She said that regarding the records of the Public Health Ministry, in each year it was only 20 new drugs introduced to Thailand from the total registration around the world of 45 drugs. The marketing value of those 20 new drugs will accumulate to a maximum of ten million baht, she said.

This is very little compared to local drug markets of 16,000 million baht. The PPA members account for 7 000 baht (44 percent of the total markets) while the balance will be accounted for by local and generic companies.

PPA committee member Phonwit Phacharinthanakhun said 99 percent of new drugs will be similar to drugs already marketed in Thailand, the exception being only the side-effects of the new drugs for patients.

So it will be very difficult for the new drugs to compete with the old similar ones that usually have lower prices.

It is also difficult to persuade doctors who always rely on the old drugs that they can be sure in the results of

treatment, to use the new drugs when the treatment may be doubtful, PPA members said.

Mrs Intira said the new drugs will be difficult to survive in Thai markets, whether or not the pipeline is protected.

She also said the patent protection of the pharmaceutical products will not increase the price of drugs as the competition is very serious. She cited as an example the patented drug price to cure high blood pressure that had been forced to be lowered from 20 baht each to only seven baht due to the competition.

However, she refused to make any direct comment on the position of PPA on whether she agreed with the seven years' pipeline protection. She only said that it will be the responsibility of the government to weigh what will yield the greatest benefits to the country as a whole, but still give notice that the pipeline protection is only a short-term protection.

For other issues that the US demand for amendment in Thai's Patent Law such as the compulsory licensing that allowed the government to grant patent rights to other drug manufacturers, if the right holder did not use it in proper time or about the changing of pharmaceutical patent board, the PPA committees did not show any rejection of the existing Thai Patent Law.

Mrs Intira said the PPA wanted to clear its image that PPA members' drug pricing policy is now reasonable as the cost of developing a new drug will be about \$250 million.

The time-frame required to develop a drug averaged 12 years based on the patent life of 20 years, so it will leave less than half of the time for commercialisation.

She said that during the commercial time the drug companies need to recover their initial investment and make sufficient returns for future research investment. Therefore, PPA members must charge realistic costs to stay in business.

Academic: Prices Will Rise

*BK1305023593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 May 93 p 24*

[Text] A WELL-KNOWN academic and public health activist yesterday refuted foreign drug companies' claim that Thailand will not suffer from extension of patent protection to pharmaceuticals.

Associate Prof Samli Chaidi of Chulalongkorn University's Pharmaceuticals Faculty and adviser to the independent Drug Study Group asserted in an interview yesterday that the agreement at present being negotiated between the United States and Thailand and the Thai Government's decision to extend patent protection to pharmaceuticals will lead to higher drug prices for Thai consumers and endanger supplies of important medicines.

Assoc Prof Samli refuted the claim of Inthira Kemakawat, president of the Pharmaceutical Producers Association, the group representing foreign drug concerns, that retroactive "pipeline" patent protection would not affect Thai consumers greatly. Mrs Inthira made the statement in a press conference on Tuesday.

"I don't believe" the claim, Assoc Prof Samli stated. The United States Government and American drug companies, she asserts, have gone back on their word a number of times over the course of the past eight years of disputes on the matter.

"I don't know how you can believe them," she complained.

Each time Thailand has yielded to the American position, she argued, the US responds with a new demand. "They ask for too much," she said.

She notes that American demands are especially unfair in light of recent consideration by the US administration of its own pharmaceutical price controls.

Assoc Prof Samli believes that a strong pharmaceutical patent board is crucial to maintaining reasonable drug prices in Thailand. Such a board should be granted extensive authority, she suggests, to regulate prices and force foreign companies unwilling to sell medicine at what the board considers fair prices to license Thai firms to produce the drugs in question.

The United States and representatives of foreign drug companies claim that such a board would rob them of the chance to recoup their investment in research and development and would conflict with the draft GATT agreement.

Assoc Prof Samli, however, asserts that so-called "compulsory licensing" is consistent with the GATT draft's Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights TRIPS provision covering patents. She believes that even the board to be established in legislation now contemplated would be too weak to prevent overcharging.

The six-person board, as now proposed, would include two representatives of foreign drug companies.

She believes that this gives foreign firms too much influence over pricing.

Assoc Prof Samli suggests that the board could be granted wider powers over pricing and licensing and still remain within the confines of international agreements.

Commentary Views Rice Farmers' Plight

BK1205021793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 May 93 p A6

[Commentary by Sonny Inbarat and Prawit Rotchanaphruk: "Falling paddy prices and hungry farmers"]

[Text] The front page picture of THE NATION on Sunday [9 May] of Sangiam Tomchai-ot, a protest farmer lying on a bed at the Kamphaeng Phet Hospital, breathing his last breath, is indeed a heart-breaking photo for anyone who believes in equality for all under the law.

As a result of police brutality, Sangiam on Saturday had been admitted to the intensive care unit of the hospital with severe head injuries. A few hours after the photograph was taken, the farmer succumbed to his injuries. Doctors at the hospital said he died of a massive brain haemorrhage. Thousands of rice farmers blocked roads leading to the Kamphaeng Phet provincial seat on Friday after a brief rally outside the provincial hall to demand the government take action to shore up falling paddy prices.

Though Sangiam had already disposed of his paddy crop at a substantial loss, he felt that he had to support his colleagues in order to get a better price for their crop. For many of the protesting farmers, a higher price could also mean making ends meet to feed the hungry mouths of their families after paying off their debts. During a commotion at the height of the protests, Sangiam's widow told reporters that she had seen police beat her husband senseless and then carry him away.

One year after the May massacre, the police have yet to learn lessons in crowd-control. As in May last year, we have to ask these questions again: Why wasn't tear gas used to disperse the crowd and why did the police allow the protesters to congregate in numbers that were too big for them to control? Many will argue that Sangiam and the thousands of other farmers in Kamphaeng Phet were led by opposition MPs with a hidden motive and hence they deserved such treatment. But there are firm grounds to believe that the protests on Friday were not backed by politicians and the farmers took to the streets of their own accord.

The sad fact is that the predicaments of the country's eight million farmers—who are in fact the backbone of Thailand—are often ignored by the ruling elite, so much so that because of falling paddy prices many small farmers cannot even manage to provide two square meals for their families. The Council of Economic Ministers on Monday approved a budget to promote rice production in the next five years, but ironically could not decide how to help prop up falling paddy prices.

Politically-speaking, we have to ask whether the Chuan government has a long-term commitment to alleviate the plight of rice farmers because of falling paddy prices, or are the administration's measures just knee jerk responses?

It was only as recent as the beginning of this year that Deputy Prime Minister Bunchu Rotchanasathian said the government's efforts to shore up paddy prices to Bt [baht] 4,100 per tonne could be realized by February, even though the prevailing domestic price at that time

was in the Bt2,900-Bt3,200 range. The farmers at Kamphaeng Phet were protesting because prices had dropped further to Bt1,700-Bt1,800 per tonne.

When the Commerce Ministry in the middle of January began buying paddy supplies from big private exporters for sale in overseas markets through its commercial counsellors, many rice experts said this was sheer folly, especially when it was pointed out that only a select few exporters were set to gain from these sales. The experts said that because of this, smaller exporters would be reluctant to carry out individual private exports because their losses would not be covered, bearing in mind the fact that domestic prices would be higher than that overseas. Already, foreign markets are flooded with low grade rice exports from Vietnam which are currently US\$30-\$40 per tonne lower than Thailand's.

Logically speaking, it is the small exporters and the millers who make the big difference when it comes to propping up paddy prices. If the small exporters can take advantage of subsidies offered by the Commerce Ministry, they could in turn pass it on to the millers, who would be able to offer farmers more competitive prices for the gram.

One of the demands made by the protesting farmers in Kamphaeng Phet, was for interest rates on loans from the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) to be reduced. This is an issue that needs to be taken up urgently by the Chuan administration. Despite the government's January offer of loans through the BAAC whereby farmers are able to pledge 90 per cent of their value of rice as collateral at the prevailing price of Bt4,100 per tonne, farmers remain sceptical.

Many in the provinces do not trust the bank and there have been claims that BAAC officials have foreclosed on farmers' crops to settle outstanding debts, despite assurances by the government that they would be allowed to default of their loans if the price fell below 90 per cent of the value pledged. Relieving the plight of the country's eight million farmers certainly involves more than just short-term market intervention.

For Commerce Minister Uthai Pimchaichon to echo the Council of Economic Ministers and say that no decision has been made to boost paddy prices, just serves to indicate that the market intervention steps initiated in January have failed abysmally. It has already been acknowledged that less-than-suitable climatic conditions resulting in irregular water supply have been responsible for the low-quality paddy this season.

The Chuan administration must seriously look into the water supply situation for farmers and if they are unable to plant a second rice crop in the middle of this year, serious efforts should be made for subsidies to be given for alternative crops to be planted. The present government came into power on a platform of promoting democracy and human rights in the country. But democracy without the participation of people in all political economic and social processes, will never be preserved.

Democracy beckons with the greater freedom it provides, but that does not include the freedom to starve farmers, as the country embarks on a rapid industrialization path to become a newly-developed country.

Niphon Puaphongsakon, director of Thailand Development Research Institute's Sectoral Economic Programme sums it up succinctly.

"Farmers can no longer rely on agriculture. Studies on farmers income are starting to show that they are being left behind other sectors. At present, farmers have to go to work in factories and construction sites and that's the way it is. Agriculture alone cannot feed them."

Chuan Denies Ordering Force in Farmers' Protest

*BK1305030593 Bangkok THE NATION in English
13 May 93 p A3*

[Text] PRIME Minister Chuan Likphai last night denied ordering the forceful suppression of a protest over falling paddy prices which ended in the death of a farmer and injuries to dozens of others in Kamphaeng Phet province last Friday.

The premier told a House debate that he had not directly given guidelines to provincial authorities on how to handle the protest.

Chuan said in the wake of many previous protests by farmers, he had only given a policy direction to the Interior Ministry that local authorities must try to prevent protesters from breaking the law, such as blocking roads and damaging public property.

The government came under attack from opposition MPs during the House debate yesterday for its failure to use peaceful means to quell the rice farmers' protest in Kamphaeng Phet.

The debate followed three emergency motions submitted to the House by MPs from Chat Thai, Chat Phatthana and Seritham parties. It started at about 6 pm and ended shortly after midnight.

Police and protesters clashed at the height of the protest in Kamphaeng Phet on Friday. A farmer, Sa-ngiam Tomchai-ot, later died of head injuries and an official report said 14 villagers and 25 policemen were injured.

Chuan said the government deeply regretted the death of the farmer. He believed that nobody had wanted it to happen.

"When I learned of it, I immediately knew that the government would be the first to be held responsible. It is another case of grave concern (for the government)," he said.

The premier urged any group intending to stage a protest not to equate democracy with chaos by resorting to tactics that could cause other people to suffer.

Chuan said he believed the different problems people face could be solved by democratic means.

"Democracy is good in the way that it gives people the freedom of choice. They can elect new leaders if my government failed and I would tell them to vote for those in the opposition camp in the next election," he said.

Before the debate ended last night, Chat Thai Party MP from Buri Ram province Newin Chitchop accused Chuan and Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut of committing criminal offences with regard to their responsibility for the violence in Kamphaeng Phet.

"Tell me Mister Prime Minister whether you are a murderer," he asked.

Deputy Science Minister Pricha Musikun, a Kamphaeng Phet MP from the Democrat Party, said he had evidence showing that some of the farmers, including teenagers from Khlong Khlung district, were paid from Bt [baht] 100 to Bt200 to join the protest. He did not identify the alleged bribers.

He said a melee broke out at the protest site last Friday night after one policeman was hit on the head.

Muanchon Party leader Chaloeam Yubamrung said the farmers had the right to rally to air their grievances and denied that their protests were politicized.

Chat Thai's Kamphaeng Phet MP Waratthep Rattanakon said the farmers staged the protest purely because they were suffering from falling paddy prices and no politicians were behind their move.

He also showed the House meeting a broken baton, which he said was used by police to beat Sa-ngiam, and pictures of the protest.

Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut said police were ordered not to use weapons against the protesters in Kamphaeng Phet and he believed they did not intend to kill anybody.

An investigation was pending to determine whether anyone should be punished in connection with the violence, he said.

"The situation then was very critical. Police had to do something to prevent possible extensive damage from the fiery protest," he said.

Workers 'Hostages' to Desire for NIC Status

*BK1305025193 Bangkok THE NATION in English
13 May 93 p A6*

[Editorial: "Doll Factory Fire Raises Chilling Questions"]

[Text] The deadly fire that razed through the Kader doll factory in Nakhon Pathom on Monday and killed at least 217 workers—most of them young women—has shaken loose a cascade of questions. In hindsight, the questions become chillingly urgent and need to be answered fast.

Volunteers with the Ruam Katanyu Foundation told THE NATION on Tuesday that they found as many as 92 bodies stacked under the debris of what once was the stairway. Many of the victims were apparently crushed to death when the stairway collapsed along with the building. The stairway connected to a walkway leading to a second building was the only escape route.

These volunteers, many of them deemed to be hard-core to the grisly sight of death, were appalled by what they encountered at the scene.

Police are investigating claims that workers were blocked by foremen or security staff of the factory from fleeing the building when the fire first broke out, possibly to prevent theft.

If these claims are true, then the police should not leave any stone unturned and initiate criminal proceedings against those responsible for preventing the workers from leaving the burning building.

The factory complex had been the scene of fires before and in the past eight months there had been four blazes at the site. But despite this, there had been no fire drills for the workers bearing the fact that the factory was storing highly inflammable chemicals on its premises. To quote a women worker who had been with the toy factory for two years: "There has never been any fire drill since I joined the company two years ago. They only taught some of us to use a fire extinguisher."

Also, the three buildings which collapsed in flames on Monday were prefabricated light steel structures. When Industry Minister Sanan Kachonprasat learned of this he was fuming and pledged an "all-out investigation" to determine whether the company had violated construction laws.

"Every procedure before the buildings were constructed will be looked at. We need to know who approved the plans, whether the plans were correct or were later violated, and why the buildings collapsed so easily," Sanan said.

The management of this factory placed no value on life. But then, the same could be said of numerous other sweatshops all around Bangkok, where existing domestic legislation is lax so as to promote foreign investment.

The overall effect is that innocent Thais are hostages in the country's endeavour to become a newly-industrialized country.

But do the foreign multi-nationals care about the lives of locals or are they just seen as mere factors of production to rake in profits?

The statement issued by the Hong Kong-based Kader Holdings Company Limited, which has a 40 per cent stake in the Bangkok factory had this to say in an announcement published in a Hong Kong newspaper, published yesterday:

"The company believes that the accident will have no substantial financial impact on the Group as the contribution of the associated (Thai) company to the group's profits has been insignificant in the past few years."

The announcement made no mention of compensation for the victims' families.

The word "insignificant" in the statement shows a shocking callousness, as though the black ink in the ledger books was more important than lives.

If the authorities could lift their eyes for a moment from the economic progress that has served to blind them, they will be able to see that the deaths at the Kader doll factory have been quite unnecessary.

The government should realize that catering to the needs of irresponsible multi-nationals where sheer greed for money overwhelms everything, will only harm the country's workers.

Instead, wisdom, common sense and realism should prevail for a similar tragedy not to re-occur.

Agreement Strengthens Oil Link With Oman

*BK1205022193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
12 May 93 p 17*

[Text] Oman has increased its estimate of proven oil reserves to five billion barrels but has no plan to increase oil production beyond the current level.

Responding to a question from Business Post, Minister of Petroleum and Minerals Sa'id bin-Ahmad al-Shanfari said the sultanate will maintain the present output of 750,000 barrels a day for the next 20 years.

"Oman prefers to produce just enough oil to run its government and finance some development projects each year," he said.

The increase in oil reserves is the result of an active exploration programme. The new figure is 11 percent over last year's estimate but is a far cry from the 1.2 billion barrels thought of two decades ago.

Its proven natural gas reserves have also gone up to 20 trillion cubic feet, compared to 17 trillion cubic feet at the start of last year.

"We managed to find more gas in the last two or three years than we found in the last 20 years together. That's the reason why our proven gas reserves doubled so quickly," the minister said.

He said there are "positive indications" that gas reserves will jump further. The success in gas exploration has prompted Oman to embark on a multi-billion-dollar project to liquefy natural gas for exports.

Despite the increasing oil reserves, the sultanate still prefers to call itself a modest producer by Middle East standards. More than 700,000 b/d [barrels per day] of its

oil production is exported, part of it coming to Thailand, and more than 80 percent of the country's national income comes from oil exports.

Oman has become a traditional source of oil supply for Thailand. According to the Omani minister, the kingdom in 1991 imported 7.74 million barrels of oil from Oman but the volume decreased slightly to 7.41 million barrels last year.

But its link with Thailand on oil-related industries is being strengthened following the recent conclusion of an agreement to take part in the \$1.9-billion development of an oil refinery in the kingdom.

The preliminary accord envisages the wholly state-owned Oman Oil Co joining the US oil firm Caltex and the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT) to build the refinery in the eastern province of Rayong.

Oman and Caltex will have an indirect 64 percent equity interest in the scheme through CXO, a firm registered in Bermuda and owned 60 percent by Caltex and 40 percent by Oman Oil. The PTT has an initial 36 percent stake in the scheme due to go on stream in 1996.

Under the same agreement, Oman will also provide up to 80,000 b/d of Oman export blend crude oil to Thailand's fifth oil refinery.

Although not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Oman has voluntarily agreed with the cartel's request to limit its production, because "we believe that the responsibility of boosting conditions in oil markets and prices must be shouldered by all oil producers inside and outside OPEC," said the Omani oil minister.

Mr Sa'id reaffirmed Oman's stance not to become an OPEC member as "there is no need." He explained that Oman is a founding member of the Independent Petroleum Exporting Countries which has common interests, goals and contacts with OPEC.

Vietnam

Hanoi Rejects Returning 'Historic' Lands to Cambodia

*BK1205121693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0859 GMT
12 May 93*

[Text] Hanoi, May 12 (AFP)—Hanoi said Wednesday [12 May] that it was prepared to sit down with the future elected government of Cambodia and discuss recent territorial disputes, but made clear that land absorbed in earlier centuries was not up for negotiation.

"The issue of national borders delineated hundreds of years ago is a historic reality that all countries must respect," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman was responding to Prince Norodom Ranariddh's pledge Sunday that if his FUNCINPEC

[National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party won Cambodia's elections this month, it would seek to recover "by peaceful means" Cambodian territory lost to Vietnam and Thailand.

"Vietnam respects the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cambodia," the Vietnamese spokesman said.

"Problems between Vietnam and Cambodia that have newly appeared should be settled through negotiations based on the respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, taking into account the interests of each country."

A senior Vietnamese source said Hanoi was willing to re-negotiate a border delineation agreement signed with Phnom Penh after installing a client government there in 1979. That agreement settled border disputes overwhelmingly in Vietnam's favor.

But Vietnam is not prepared to entertain discussions of its sovereignty over the Mekong Delta, which the Vietnamese acquired from the declining Khmer Empire in the 18th century.

The spokesman recalled that Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Cambodian Supreme National Council chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk—Ranariddh's father—had agreed in January 1992 that their countries should settle all disputes through peaceful negotiations.

Hanoi Source Identifies KR's Top Strategist

OW1305131493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1257 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Hanoi, May 13 KYODO—The "brains" behind Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge [KR] faction is enigmatic strategist Zi Zon, a reliable Vietnamese military source said here Thursday [13 May].

"Zi Zon is the brain of Pol Pot," said the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The communist guerrilla faction reportedly envisions taking over by intensifying offensives against the Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh government if it fails to disrupt the May 23 to 28 electoral process.

Zi Zon has the title of supreme political adviser to Pol Pot, who was prime minister in the 1970s.

The Khmer Rouge was ousted from the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh in January 1979, after Vietnamese troops invaded the country in December 1978.

Another source close to the Vietnamese Communist Party said that Zi Zon was studying in Paris when Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan lived in the French capital.

The source said Zi Zon, who was educated in Moscow and China after his years in Paris, "was acting with

South Vietnam's National Liberation Front (NLF)" when the Khmer Rouge and troops loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk were jointly fighting against the regime of then Prime Minister Lon Nol.

The NLF was the insurgent movement in South Vietnam, whose establishment was aided by North Vietnam.

Zi Zon is believed to be staying at the faction's military headquarters in the province of Kompong Speu which was set up last April by Ta Mok, hard-line commander of the guerrilla forces.

Lon Nol led a coup that deposed Sihanouk in March 1970.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet Begins ROK Visit

BK1305110193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 13 May 93

[Text] Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet arrived in Seoul on Thursday [13 May] for an official visit to the Republic of Korea at the invitation of Korean Prime Minister Hwang In-song. This is the first visit to the Republic of Korea by the Vietnamese prime minister.

The Vietnamese national daily NHAN DAN on Thursday said the visit constituted an important event in friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries. The paper added that this visit will pave the way and create favorable conditions to improve relations between the two countries, including economic ties.

Editorial Applauds Visit

BK1305055193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 May 93

[NHAN DAN 13 May editorial: "Friendship and Cooperation Between Vietnam and the Republic of Korea are Developing."]

[Text] SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet arrives in Seoul today for an official visit to the Republic of Korea at the invitation of Prime Minister Hwang In-song. This is our Prime Minister's first official visit to this country and is a significant event in the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the Republic of Korea following the establishment of diplomatic relations on 22 December 1992.

The Vietnamese as well as the Korean people, who share similar cultural aspects, wish for an expansion of cooperation in various areas in the interest of each country and for peace, friendship, and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

The two sides have great potential for cooperation and for supporting one another in national construction programs in their respective country.

In welcoming Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit, the ROK Government contends that this first visit by a top

leader of Vietnam will open a new era and create favorable conditions for strengthening friendly relations and accelerating economic cooperation.

The ROK—with its vast capital, technology, and management experience—has paid great interest to markets in Vietnam, a country with ample natural resources and a strong labor force that can quickly absorb new technologies.

ROK political and business circles have appraised highly the renovation undertaking in Vietnam and have welcomed its open-door foreign policy of befriending all countries for peace, independence, and development. The ROK is ready to expand its cooperation with Vietnam in the economic, trade, scientific-technological, and other domains.

The normalization of relations between Vietnam and the ROK has accelerated bilateral cooperation. At present, the ROK is an important trade partner and is one of the countries engaged in the many investment projects in Vietnam.

By speedily providing the first \$50 million in development aid to Vietnam, the ROK has encouraged more Korean businessmen to invest in the country. The exchange of visits by foreign ministers and high-ranking officials will help create favorable conditions for negotiations and agreements on orientations and measures aimed at strengthening relations in various areas. Indeed, there is great potential in Vietnam-ROK economic ties.

We are firmly convinced that Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's visit to the ROK will mark yet another achievement in bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation.

PRC Defense Minister Chi Haotian Arrives in Hanoi

*BK1305110593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 13 May 93*

[Text] Chinese Defense Minister Chi Haotian arrived in Hanoi on Tuesday [11 May] for an official visit at the invitation of his Vietnamese counterpart, General Doan Khue. Chi Haotian, a senior lieutenant general, will visit Danang, Hue, and Ho Chi Minh City.

